



## Smuggler's claims shed new light on disputed silver hoard

THE Marquess of Northampton's £40 million hoard of Roman silver, currently held by a New York court pending claims by Yugoslavia, Hungary and Lebanon, was definitely found in Yugoslavia, according to new evidence just published in the *Art Newspaper*.

A Yugoslav national called Alexander Milles claims that the 14 pieces of silver, bought in good faith by Lord Northampton from agents in Switzerland in the early Eighties, were discovered during the Fifties in a sealed sarcophagus in an old copper mine at Barlangai on the Istra peninsula. He has photographs of the treasure before and after restoration, as well as

documentation stowed away in safes in Austria and Germany to prove it.

The drawback is that, despite his coherence and the convincing circumstantial detail of his claims, the witness is currently serving a jail sentence for stealing and smuggling precious books and manuscripts from two Zagreb libraries, and is therefore lacking in credibility.

Anne Somers Cocks, editor of the *Art Newspaper*, said yesterday that she published Mr Milles's claims because they came through a trusted contact, an ex-curator at the Zagreb Museum of Decorative Arts, who had been "following up leads" on the silver, but had

Sarah Jane Checkland reports the latest twist in the saga of £40 million of Roman silver and the three countries who say it is theirs

stopped after she and her children had been threatened by an anonymous telephone caller. "She and the people in the Zagreb Museum believe that this man is speaking the truth," Miss Somers Cocks said.

Lord Northampton was abroad, and unavailable for comment.

It is not known how seriously the New York court will view the new evidence. Lawyers are considering a mass of paperwork provided by the claimant cou-

ties, as well as by Lord Northampton, before they go into session this autumn.

Mr Milles's claims are the latest in an international saga which has been rumbling on since February last year, when Sotheby's unveiled the treasure, and its £40 million price tag. The 14 lavish and ornamental silver dishes, ewers and other vessels from the late Roman empire were, according to Sotheby's, "more brilliantly decorated and are of greater weight and

importance than any previously known from that period".

Sotheby's said it had the full complement of necessary export documents from Lebanon, but it was not long before archaeologists began to express their scepticism. The most outspoken was Hugh Chapman, general secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, who said that the fact that an export licence had been given by Lebanon did not indicate that Lebanon was the country of origin. "On the contrary, it suggests to me that it was not, because the Lebanese would have been extremely reluctant to let them go if they were part of their heritage."

According to the *Art Newspaper*,

Mr Milles has had his 15-year sentence reduced to nine amid speculation in Yugoslavia that he made a deal with the authorities to "protect public figures who still hold prominent positions". He claims that Lord Northampton's consignment is a small part of the total hoard, which originally comprised 52 pieces. Parts of the collection were already known in the Fifties, although most of the smuggling took place between 1977 and 1984.

One piece appeared in President Tito's residence towards the end of 1966, he says, "planted" on the president so that the rest of the treasure could get export documents through diplomatic sources.

MARC ASPLAND



Lord Northampton paid £40 million in good faith

## Rover sends study teams to Japan in productivity drive

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ROVER is sending hundreds of staff to work on Japanese assembly lines to boost productivity at its British plants and safeguard the jobs of its 37,000 workers.

The company announced yesterday that it is building three new car models in partnership with Honda of Japan in an investment that could be worth £600 million. Rover's decision will safeguard jobs at Longbridge, Birmingham, which will build two of the new models, and Cowley, Oxford.

It is expected the three new models could raise production at the two plants by 150,000 a year. However, there will be no new jobs, because Rover is planning a drive to

increase productivity by up to 30 per cent in the next five years to survive competition.

That competition comes mainly from the Japanese, particularly Toyota and Nissan, which will be making a total of 400,000 cars annually in Britain by the mid-1990s. Ironically, Honda is providing the means to help Rover to introduce new models, cut costs and retrain its workforce. The Japanese company has a 20 per cent stake in Rover.

Rover workers, from senior executives to assembly line men, are being sent to Honda plants to study the methods that make the Japanese the world's most efficient workers. Groups of up to 20 have

already returned from the United States, where Honda makes 600,000 cars a year, including the Accord range.

The training programme will intensify over the next few months as Rover moves towards full adoption of Japanese-style working practices, including the ending of traditional demarcation lines.

George Simpson, Rover's chief executive, said: "We lag way behind making the maximum use of our people. Go to a Japanese factory and you find people taking responsibility, doing their own designs and their own house-keeping. It is that ethos we need in our people."

Rover has been collaborating with Honda since the late 1970s and has already made three car models in partnership with the Japanese; the Triumph Acclaim, the Rover 200 Series and 800 executive model.

The deal agreed this week is the most far-reaching yet with wide implications for Rover and its hundreds of component suppliers in Britain and Europe. The three new cars will use spare capacity at Longbridge and Cowley, a factory that workers feared was under threat of closure.

Cementing the link with Honda will enable Rover to control costs of its component buying, which is running at £2.5 million a year. The two companies intend to buy common components from the same suppliers.

The three new models include a replacement for the Rover 200 Series made at Longbridge. The Birmingham plant will also have a new model. Cowley will build a medium-sized car, codenamed Syncro, a version of which will also be made by Honda at its new factory at Swindon, Wiltshire.

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Each team will make its own decisions about who



New faces: Julian Lennon, the singer, centre, with the new presenters of tonight's reshaped *Top of the Pops*: Mark Franklin, aged 17 (left), from Swindon, and Tony Deric, aged 26, from London. The plan is for more live music and less minging and will feature music from the American top 10 and album charts

## BBC switches to job swap revolution

REPORTERS will get the opportunity to be directors or camera operators, producers will be able to try presenting and sound technicians will

have the chance to try research or scriptwriting, under plans unveiled yesterday by the BBC news and current affairs section.

Early next year, the first group of BBC journalists, producers and technicians will swap jobs in a move to encourage teamwork and to allow employees the opportunity to develop new skills.

News and current affairs staff from radio and television will be merged to form "teams" which will be allocated to make specific news summaries and documentaries for both media.

Each team will make its own decisions about who

should do what, although disputes will be arbitrated by the programme team's editor, the BBC said yesterday.

Leading correspondents such as Kate Adie and John Simpson, and presenters such as David Dimbleby and Jeremy Paxman are thought unlikely to be required to take up off-camera positions.

The proposals, outlined in what the BBC described as a "policy-cum-vision" document, will start to take effect early next year, with the formation of a "pilot" team.

The scheme, which also involves computerisation to reduce staffing levels, has yet to

be finalised. The BBC said yesterday that it could not yet put a figure on expected job losses or changes in working hours.

It said that the details of the scheme would not be finalised until discussions with staff were completed. "The nub of it is training, but it is also about breaking down barriers: encouraging more co-operation and less demarcation," the BBC said.

Tony Hall, director of news and current affairs, said yesterday: "We have to be in the vanguard of news broadcasting - linking quality, efficiency, harnessing new developments to a tradition of

journalistic excellence. Our aim for the '90s remains unchanged: to provide the highest quality of service to our viewers and listeners in the most efficient way."

To aid the proposed merger between radio and television news, the BBC will appoint later this autumn a head of overall newsgathering, who will become Mr Hall's number two. A head of training and development for news and current affairs will also be appointed whose responsibilities will include a journalism training course for technical staff. Other training schemes will be introduced to help people move easily between radio and television.

The BBC also plans to form a marketing team to promote news and current affairs output.

## Hospital released woman who killed

By PETER DAVENPORT

A JUDGE yesterday called for a top level enquiry into why a dangerously psychotic woman who stabbed a girl to death had been released two days before from a mental hospital where she was held after an earlier knife attack on another girl.

Mr Justice Turner, was speaking at Sheffield crown court after sentencing Carol Ann Barratt, aged 24, for killing Emma Brodie, aged 11, with a carving knife in a crowded shopping arcade. She had made the earlier attack in the same Doncaster arcade.

Barratt pleaded guilty to the manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility of Emma Brodie, at the Frenchgate shopping centre on April 16. She also pleaded guilty to kidnapping another young girl and threatening to kill two women and was

ordered to be detained without limit of time.

Robert Smith, QC, for the prosecution, said that Barratt, of Doncaster, had been a voluntary patient at Doncaster Royal Infirmary but absconded on May 30 and went to the shopping centre, where she seized a 12-year-old girl and threatened her with a knife. Passers-by rescued the girl and Barratt was arrested and ordered to be detained 28 days under the Mental Health Act.

Two weeks after the attack she was allowed out of the hospital after a psychiatrist, Dr Neil Sylvester, agreed to her release following a plea from her mother for her to be allowed home.

Two days after her release Barratt returned to the shopping centre and fatally stabbed Emma Brodie.

## Champion wins

Maya Chiburdanidze, of the Soviet Union, the defending champion, beat Xie Jun, of China, yesterday in the fourth game of the Women's World Chess Championship in Manila, the Philippines, to level the score at two points each. Twelve games remain. In the World Cup tournament in Reykjavik, Iceland, Anatole Karpov, of the Soviet Union, leads by six points after beating Boris Gulko, of America.

## Plot evidence

Channel 4 is to hand over to the RUC evidence on which it based last night's *Dispatches* television documentary, which claimed that RUC officers and UDR soldiers belong to a secret group involved in the murders of republicans and Catholics. Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, has asked for evidence to be handed over, but Channel 4 said no government pressure was applied.

## Deserter backed

A British soldier court-martialled for desertion during the Gulf war was yesterday adopted as a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International because it said he had not been properly told how to register as a conscientious objector. Victor Williams was jailed for 14 months last month for deserting in Germany on the eve of the departure for the Gulf. He appeared at anti-war demonstrations.

## Strike rejected

Telephone operators voted by 7,816 to 4,539 against industrial action in a ballot conducted by the Union of Communication Workers over British Telecom's decision to cut a further 1,000 jobs at telephone exchanges this year.

## Find on medieval site indicates first links with the East

By NORMAN HAMMOND,  
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

engraved with the Japanese character *fūji*, meaning "wisteria".

THE earliest evidence so far of contact between Britain and Japan has emerged from a medieval site in London. A bronze fragment, apparently from a bell or plaque inscribed in Japanese characters, is thought to date from the 14th century, more than 150 years before the first direct European contacts.

The discovery was made almost three years ago during excavations near Southwark Bridge, but has been kept quiet until now while the authenticity of the find was checked. The 1½in long fragment is

visit, by Will Adams of Gillingham, in the early 17th century.

The discovery is almost embarrassingly timely. Dr Egan writes in the *Municipal Journal*, not only because of the present Festival of Japan but also because the developers of the Southwark site are the Japanese company Kumagai.

How the fragment, which from its curvatures may well be part of a bronze bell about 50 cm (19in) in diameter, reached London is a mystery: if it is indeed of 14th century origin, then arrival direct by sea from the Orient is unlikely. An overland journey is, however,

quite feasible. Marco Polo's travels in the 1290s made the existence of Japan known in the West, and the Silk Route from China to the Mediterranean had been functioning for centuries before that.

Another possibility is that the bell was brought across Asia by nomads such as the Mongols, and passed into the trading system of the Russians along the Volga.

Contact between Asia and Western Europe via the Baltic became well established in Viking times, several centuries before the bronze was buried.

Academic reaction has been one of amazement, according to the *Municipal Journal*. Timothy Barret, of London University, said that the find was pretty sensational. "In terms of Japanese-British contacts, even if indirect, this is a remarkable first", he said. James McMullen, of the Oriental Institute at Oxford, called the find extraordinary. "One just wonders how on earth it could have come here," he said.

Dr Egan commented that what the burgesses of medieval London made of this exotic object is anyone's guess. "It is likely to have a far more significant cultural role as a museum curiosity today than it had some six centuries ago".

A toast to...  
A man questioned by detectives hunting the killer of Lynne Rogers was released on police bail last night. He will return to Crawley police station, West Sussex, on December 3, police said. The unemployed man, in his 30s from the Crawley area, was arrested on Saturday night. Miss Rogers, aged 17, of Caxford, southeast London, was strangled after being lured to a bogus job interview.

Mercy for  
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War  
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Repairs to house were cover-up, court is told as couple deny killing and cruelty

## Pair 'murdered baby by banging her head on bedroom wall'

By DAVID YOUNG

A COUPLE killed their six-week-old daughter by smashing her head against a bedroom wall, repaired the dent made in the wall and then took her to a hospital where they asked an ambulance man "Where do I take our dead baby?", the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Robert Rouse, aged 22, and Lyndsay Morris, aged 19, deny murdering their daughter, Studio, and charges of cruelty to her and to Baby Y, her elder sister, who cannot be named.

John Nutting, for the prosecution, said that the family had arrived at the Mayday hospital, near their home in Croydon, south London, last November and had spoken to an ambulance man. After the conversation, he had grabbed their carrycot and rushed into the hospital shouting for help. A doctor had uncovered the baby and seen "she was white, cold and stiff and had obviously been dead for some hours".

"A glance at her body indicated she had been terribly injured," Mr Nutting said. "The baby girl had four substantial bruises on her face, two on the back of her head

and two more on her right leg. She had a deep bleeding gash bisecting her lower lip. Her left thigh bone was fractured and the thigh itself was greatly swollen. She had also suffered fractures to her right collar bone, a rib on her right side and a rib on her left side.

The most serious injury was a fracture to her skull. A pathologist had decided that all the injuries had occurred within a day of her death.

The most likely cause of the injuries was that she had been "seized by her leg and swung against a hard surface, fracturing her leg in a twisting, spiral fashion and fracturing her skull as it hit the hard surface".

Mr Nutting said that Baby Y had been found to have five substantial bruises on her head and face, a deep healed gash on her lip and severe bite marks on her arms, hands and feet and a spiral fracture to her lower left leg and older fractures to her right thigh and her right and left lower legs.

The bite marks were "easily caused by adult teeth", and a dental surgeon had declared them consistent with bites by Mr Rouse.

The court was told that,

because of unexplained injuries soon after her birth, Baby Y had been fostered for some months and put on an "at risk" register. When she was returned to her parents, Croydon social workers had visited the family regularly and frequently noticed bruises which the parents had explained by saying that Baby Y had banged herself on her cot or fallen on to toys. Medical experts believed that few of the injuries could have been caused accidentally, Mr Nutting said.

Police had found evidence of a concave dent in a partition wall of the room where the children slept. A mould taken of Studio's skull fitted the dent. In the pathologist's view, the dent could well have been made by her skull. The dent had been filled with old newspapers and filler, Mr Nutting said.

Three bloodstained sheets had been found in a dustbin, with pages of newspapers of the same date as that used to fill the cavity.

Mr Nutting said: "The Crown say that when Studio died, the defendants tried to conceal evidence of the baby's violent death by repairing the wall and getting



Rouse: bites on baby were said to match his teeth



Morris: denies murder of six-week-old daughter and charges of cruelty to her other child

rid of some of the blood-stained sheets."

Mr Nutting said that Mr Rouse and Miss Morris had known each other for many years because their families had lived near each other in New Addington, Surrey. They had started going out together in 1988. In January 1989, Miss Morris had been raped by a boy aged 14 and had suffered greatly from the experience. In spring 1989, she had become pregnant by Mr Rouse. In September, they moved to a council flat at Thornton Heath, Croydon.

The court heard evidence from Dr Rosie Williams. The case continues today.

## Police hunt gang stealing luxury cars for export

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

DETECTIVES from seven countries are hunting an international ring of car thieves using Britain as a staging post to ship luxury vehicles from mainland Europe to buyers on the "other side of the world", a police conference was told yesterday.

Earlier this year British detectives discovered a Ferrari and a Mercedes, together worth £200,000, awaiting shipment near Heathrow airport. The vehicles would have

## Doctors accused over boy's death

TWO doctors caused the death of a teenage leukaemia patient because of criminal failures in their treatment, Birmingham crown court was told yesterday. Malcolm Savage, aged 16, died in March last year two weeks after a drug was injected into his spine instead of his arm at Peterborough district hospital, the court was told.

A consultant who noticed the error brought together a team that tried to stop the drug reaching the patient's brain by inserting a needle with a tiny tube at the base of the skull, the jury was told. The tube, however, entered the stem of the brain, causing part of it to die and the damage led to the boy's death.

Stephen Coward, QC, for the prosecution, said that the actions of Dr Michael Prestice and Dr Barry Sulliman, who had been responsible for injecting the drug Vincristine, had contributed significantly to the death. Mr Coward said that neither doctor had read a label on the syringe containing the drug before carrying out the injection. Another drug that the boy was receiving would have been injected into his spine but the Vincristine should have gone into his arm.

Dr Prestice, aged 23, of Leicester, and Dr Sulliman, aged 27, of Manor Park, northeast London, both deny manslaughter. Mr Coward said: "The Crown say that they caused the death of Malcolm Savage by criminal failures in their treatment of him."

The boy, from Spalding, Lincolnshire, who had been diagnosed as suffering from leukaemia when he was four, was being treated for a relapse.

The trial continues today.

## Mercy for mother who killed

A DEPRESSED mother who smothered her two children with a pillow was put on probation yesterday.

Yvonne Hamm, aged 24, killed her two-year-old daughter Lawrie and one-year-old son Paul last April, fearing they were in danger, Stafford crown court was told. Then she tried to kill herself, fearing violence from the children's father, whom she had left.

Hannon, of Wednesfield, West Midlands, who pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility, was put on probation for three years on condition that she continued to receive psychiatric treatment. Mr Justice Judge told her: "I think moral responsibility for your actions was effectively extinguished because you desperately needed treatment."

## A toast to Milton Keynes

By ALAN HAMILTON

WATCH out, Puligoy-Montreher, Romane-Sainte-Marguerite, Chateau Margaux and all you other aristocrats of the grape, the world is about to experience Chateau Milton Keynes 91.

Six acres of clay on the banks of the Grand Union canal, in a city whose image is hardly one of ancient winemaking traditions, is a world away from the sun-drenched hillsides of Burgundy or the Rhine. But a succession of hot dry summers has confounded the sceptics, and the result will be formally uncorked at a wine fair in the somewhat unromantic surroundings of the Milton Keynes Central Business Exchange next week.

Tony Stanyer, aged 55, who lost his job as a GLC transport manager five years ago, gambled some of his redundancy payment in buying grafted root stock vines



Stanyer: planning to expand his vineyard from the Mosel region of Germany and putting them at the mercy of the Buckinghamshire soil. Now he has more than 3,000 flourishing on the canal bank, and plans to plant 1,000 more next April.

Mr Stanyer describes his vines as distinctly English, but within the German tra-

dition and plainly identifiable as a Mosel type. It will carry the vineyard name Woughton Park.

English winemaking on a commercial scale has been enjoying a steady renaissance for the past 20 years, and about 60 vineyards are in production. Milton Keynes is far from being at the limit of English viticulture vineyards flourish in Norfolk, Leicestershire and west Wales.

Woughton Park is not yet ready to take its place on supermarket shelves. Mr Stanyer hopes that most of this year's production will be sold through a local hotel. Next year he plans to take a sample case to a wine fair in the Mosel.

Chateau Milton Keynes may never aspire to be a *premier cru* but, like Sam Johnson's dog on its hind legs, there will be some amusement in the fact that it is done at all.

## Care staff nearly quit Orkney operation

By KERRY GILL

SOME social workers called in to help take care of the nine Orkney children after allegations of sexual abuse were on the verge of refusing to take part, it emerged yesterday as the judicial enquiry learned for the first time how worried social workers had become about the dawn operation.

One of them, Fran Connor, said the social workers flown to Orkney were given so little information that they were ready to stage a last-minute pullout. But they were told that even if they left, the nine children would be taken from their homes anyway.

Miss Connor's comments represent the strongest attack the enquiry has yet heard about the pre-planning and co-ordination of the exercise. All the social workers were given a brief outline of the allegations that had been made and all were sworn to secrecy. Yet the enquiry has heard several times that their requests for more information were often unanswered.

Miss Connor, aged 25, earlier said she almost broke down while a boy aged 11 was taken into care. The incident happened on a minibus as some of the children were being driven to a children's home.

Asked by Lord Clyde, the chairman, how near the group came to refusing to take part, she replied: "I think the feeling was quite strong."

The enquiry was adjourned until Monday.

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**O**n 26 February 1991, Kuwait was liberated from the cruel hand of Saddam Hussein.

But for many families, the celebrations were tinged with sadness. Their loved ones remained in the clutches of the Iraqi regime. With little prospect of release.

Over 2,000 Kuwaitis are still held in appalling conditions in Iraq's jails. Anyone who saw the evidence of torture and victimisation that Saddam's men left in Kuwait will fear for their safety.

As Kuwait shares your joy at the release of John McCarthy and Jackie Mann, we ask you to remember the fate of the Kuwaiti hostages.

Please add your voice to those demanding that the dictator Saddam Hussein meet his obligations to the United Nations by freeing these victims.

**We have much to thank you for**

The people of Kuwait have much to celebrate, and many people to thank. Not least in the United Kingdom.

Our countries have enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship. And in our hour of need, you did not let us down.

Your country supported us, and your forces fought with courage and professionalism by our side.

For this, our country owes you a debt which can never be repaid, and will never be forgotten.

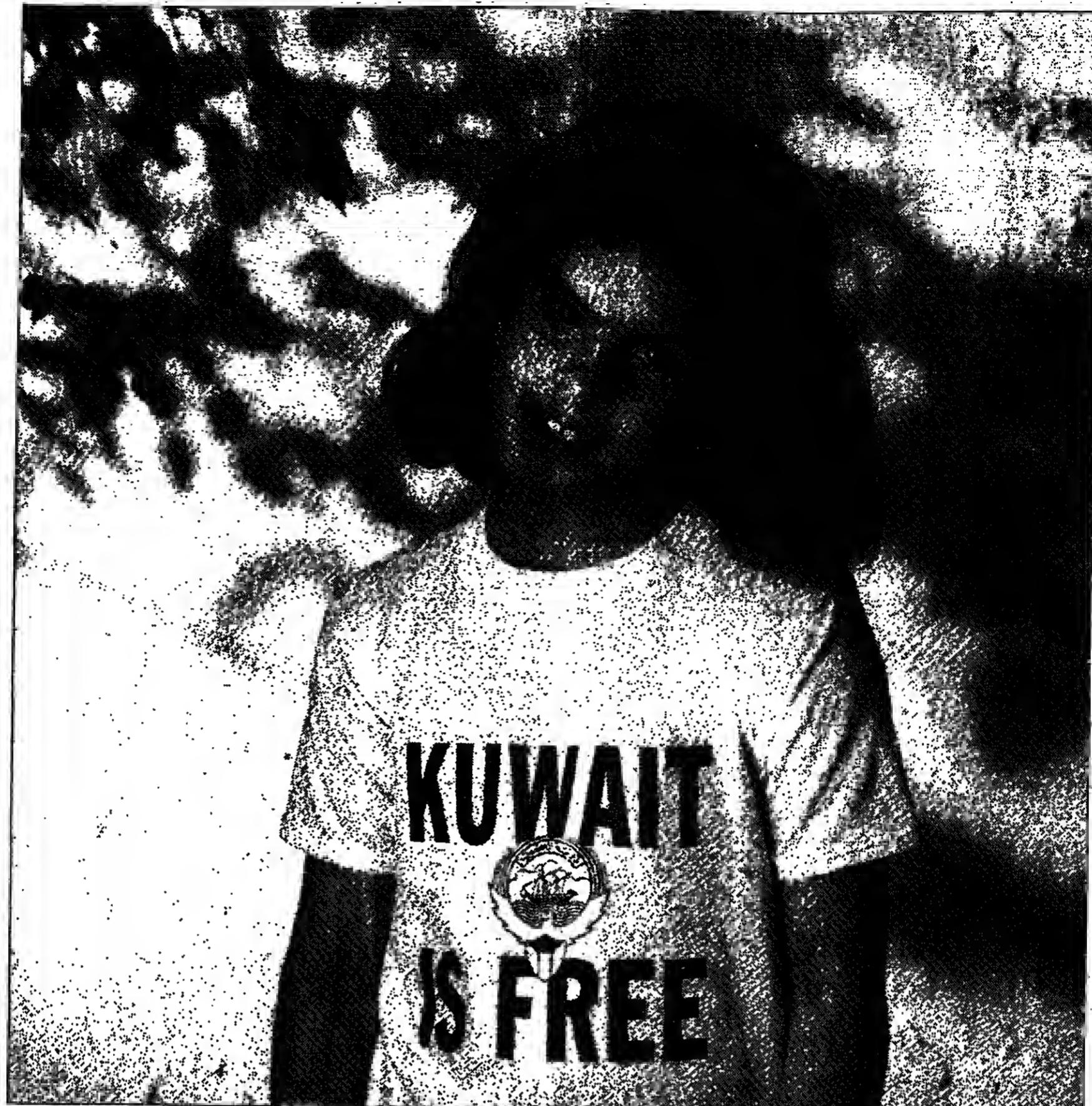
**The legacy of Saddam**

Even amidst the joy of liberation, we knew that a massive task awaited us.

Burning oil wells threatened a major ecological disaster. Our infrastructure was in ruins. Even our hospitals had been ransacked and the equipment and medicines carried off to Baghdad.

Today, we are meeting the challenge of reconstruction with vigour. Our water, electricity and communications are back in operation. Almost 500 oil wells have been successfully capped, and work continues to save the environment.

Many British companies have



# **Sadly, over 2,000 Kuwaitis are still waiting for liberation.**

been awarded contracts to assist in this task. We actively encourage more to submit tenders, for a huge amount of work still remains.

**The rule of law prevails**

Inevitably, in the aftermath of the invasion, feelings were running high. Tragically, this anger spilled over into lawlessness.

The Government has acted swiftly and positively. In a major public statement, the Crown Prince has emphasised that no Kuwaiti stands above the law, and that any crime would be punished

to the law's full extent.

Thankfully, the situation is now much calmer, and the rule of law prevails. We are able, at last, to concentrate our energies on rebuilding our country.

**"Thank you" says too little**

That Kuwait has a future at all, is thanks to the alliance in which the United Kingdom played such a major role.

Words are inadequate to express

our thanks. You have a permanent place in the hearts of all Kuwaitis.

Even in the hearts of those who are not yet free.

*"When your soldiers died on Kuwaiti soil, they symbolised bonds of friendship which even the Butcher of Baghdad could not break."*

*We admire them for their bravery, we honour them for their commitment and we respect them for their belief in freedom."*

**Emir of Kuwait**

Issued by the Embassy of the State of Kuwait, London.



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## Banks are accused of arrogance over 'arbitrary' charges

By RAY CLANCY

TOO many banks have a record of "breathtaking arrogance" and regard their customers as fair game for imposing arbitrary charges, often without warning, a *Which?* annual survey of banking services says today.

The magazine says banks should make use of a new code of practice being drawn up to improve services and consumer relations. The survey found that the number of customers unhappy with the running of their bank or building society account has doubled since last year. Over a third of those who took part in the survey were satisfied, but more than 10 per cent were "positively unhappy", usually with high charges.

The banks said they were monitoring complaints and noting what customers wanted in an effort to improve services. The Midland, which in the survey came not worst for overall satisfaction and efficiency, said it was very disappointed. "We have our own internal surveys that show that most customers are satisfied but we take this report very seriously."

The Midland has introduced questionnaires at its 1,880 branches to learn what

its customers think of the bank's services. Leaflets explaining how to complain are available in all branches.

Yorkshire Bank and the Bank of Scotland topped a quality league table of 29 banks and building societies followed by the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Abbey National and Nationwide Anglia building societies. A total of 2,786 customers took part in the random postal survey in May and June.

Charges emerged as the main concern, especially those imposed on overdrafts. Failure to carry out requested transfers, money taken from accounts without permission, errors involving cash dispensers and mistakes with direct debits and standing orders also caused concern.

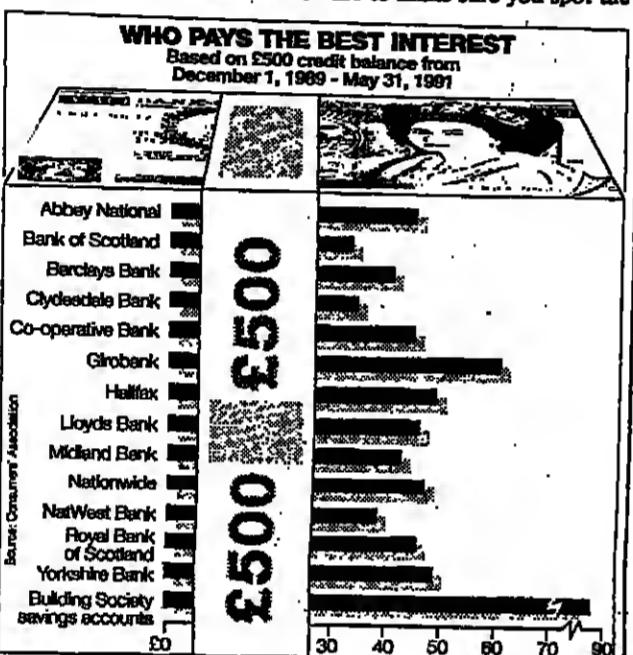
Charges varied widely. The cost of a duplicate statement averaged £3.45 with the Nationwide the highest at £6. Stopping a cheque cost an average of £5.65 but customers with Girobank and Robert Fleming/Save and Prosper were charged £10.

"Check your statement carefully. Banks and building societies can and do make mistakes. The two key rules are to make sure you spot the



Packing down: girls at Brindley Moor High School in Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, playing New Image rugby, a non-contact version of the sport introduced to the school at the girls' request. Their interest has been generated by the Rugby World Cup, which starts today. Carol Isherwood, women's national coach and developer, said New Image "removes the fear of being hurt, as there is no push or pressure allowed".

Bank Consumer Association



### How to call your branch to account

ROBERT Breckman was appalled when he found error after error on his Lloyds bank account (Ray Clancy writes). A chartered accountant, he knew exactly what to do and after making numerous complaints he billed the bank for the time and inconvenience caused and accepted a payment of £250.

He believes that the only way banks are going to improve their service is if customers stand up for themselves. Mr Breckman and his wife Julie were the victims of several mistakes. There was a mistake in interest calculations on credits, a transfer from a deposit account to a current account was not made and details of Mr Breckman's account were disclosed without his permission.

"It was a flagrant breach of confidentiality," he said. He

went to see the manager. "I came away with the impression that if I was not happy then I could take my account elsewhere." He was determined that "the bank should pay for its mistakes" and he sent Lloyds a bill for £500 and accepted £250 for his time and inconvenience. "The only way we can get things moving is to write letters and jump up and down," he said.

John Robson, a financial researcher, also decided to make a fuss when Barclays closed his account without his permission when he moved from Essex to Berkshire. He was left without a cheque card and cash card and unable to withdraw money. Barclays said that it was not normal practice to close one account before the other was operating and in Mr Robson's case there had been a mistake.

**Damages for Herald seaman**

A seaman who suffered psychiatric illness after helping in the aftermath of the 1987 Herald of Free Enterprise disaster was awarded undisclosed High Court damages yesterday. Trevor Rapley, aged 49, assisted bereaved relatives and identified bodies of colleagues, many of which had been in the sea for weeks.

Mr Rapley, of St Margaret's at Cliffe, Dover, was not on the ferry when it sank, with the loss of 192 lives, but offered to help afterwards. He suffered nervous shock and anxiety due to his experiences, and, in 1988, was declared unfit for work at sea. Agreed damages were awarded by consent against P&O European Ferries.

**Tea junction**

Tasters sipped 4,000 cups of tea before pronouncing Road Chef's Orchard Restaurant at Rowntrees Motorway Services on the M27 winner of the Tea Council's 1991 Motorways Best Cup of Tea Award.

**Scot stranded**

Immigration authorities in Florida refused a Scot woman's request to be deported. Jacqueline Nolan said she could not afford an air ticket.

### Historic medals sell for £33,000

By JOHN SHAW

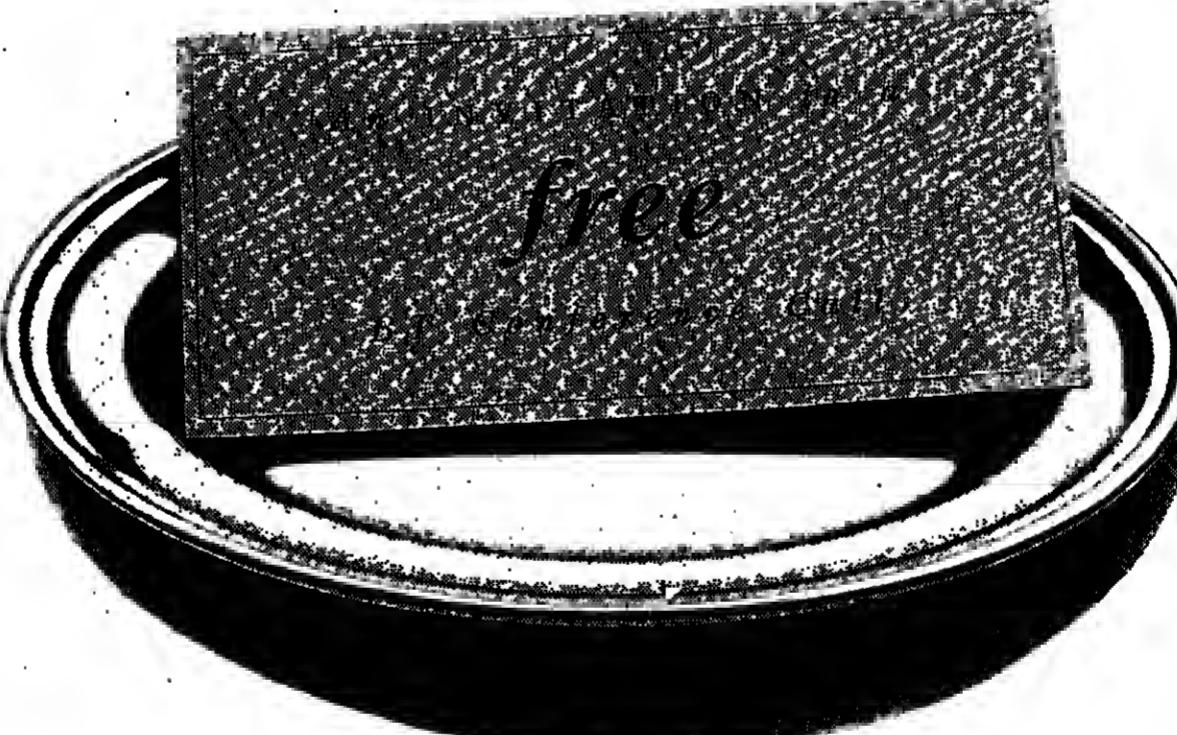
FOUR medals awarded to one of the captains who served Nelson at Trafalgar in 1805 made £33,000 at auction yesterday, dispersing 200 years of naval and military history from two related Scottish families.

Captain Philip Durham commanded HMS *Defiance* and was wounded in the leg and side but, unlike Nelson, survived the battle and carried Nelson's Knight of the Bath banner at his funeral. His decorations included a small gold Trafalgar medal, one of only 27 struck, the Order of the Bath and a French order of military merit. They were bought by Richard Kirch, a London dealer.

The auction, at Phillips in Edinburgh, was of 350 lots from Meldonfoot, near Peebles, a house built to house memorabilia from the Durhams and the Murrays, later Wolfe Murray.

They were sold by Jean Fyfe, who inherited the collection from her father, George Wolfe Murray. She was delighted with the £284,513 raised by the auction, which was 100 per cent sold.

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Heseltine  
of planning  
poll tax

What they  
decided  
yesterday

Debates today

Kinnock's

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just for show,  
sooner  
or later it will.

The Economist

# Heseltine accused of planning £1bn poll tax handout

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government is secretly planning to defuse a likely dispute over poll tax bills next year with an emergency £1 billion package exempting social security claimants from the tax. Labour claimed yesterday, on the basis of an alleged leak from the environment department.

The prediction came from David Blunkett, the party's local government spokesman, who told the Labour party's annual conference in Brighton that Michael Heseltine, the environment minister, planned to "bribe" the electorate shortly before polling day.

The environment depart-

ment said: "It is 100 per cent untrue. The secretary of state has made no bid. He has not talked to anyone about it. It has not even been considered."

Mr Heseltine had postponed an announcement at next week's Conservative conference because the election had been delayed. He said he had received a specific leak from the department and he was unashamed by the denial.

He told the conference that the government was hiding a billion-pound handout until just before the election next spring "in order to manipulate next year's poll tax". He said that, if the Tories won the election, they would raise VAT to recoup the money, as they had done this year with their £140 cut in poll tax bills.

In the summer, Mr Heseltine lost the first round of his battle with cabinet colleagues to scrap the rule forcing students and social security claimants to pay 20 per cent of the community charge. However, there were strong indications that he intended to reopen the question in the autumn. Yesterday's claims by Labour were a further suggestion that Mr Heseltine has not abandoned his quest.

His initial approach founded on the Treasury's insistence that the £400 million cost of scrapping the rule should be clawed back in lower social security payments. Those were uprated by Labour were a further suggestion that Mr Heseltine by challenging him to find the £400 million needed to spare the poor their bills.

He claimed that the Conservatives were already in deep trouble over their replacement for the poll tax. They were confused about how many property bands to introduce, and their proposed rebate and discount system would cause havoc and entail the maintenance of registers.

Labour's proposals for a modernised version of the rates would ensure that people contributed according to their ability to pay, he said. Rebates would be improved and retired people living alone would be protected.

Militant challenge, page I

## What they decided yesterday

Yesterday conference passed resolutions

- to monitor racism within Europe and to push for liberalisation of immigration controls "within the spirit of civil liberties";
- to bring in a freedom of information act, a mergers commission investigation into media cross-ownership, and a statutory right of reply to factual inaccuracies in the press;
- to introduce a bill of rights for disabled people and take measures to end discrimination against the deaf;
- to protect free speech, privacy, the right to demonstrate, to join a trade union, to picket peacefully, and to repeal legislation against lesbians and gay men including "clause 28";
- to end convictions on the basis of uncorroborated evidence, end privatised prisons, and overhaul the Crown Prosecution Service;
- to urge the home secretary to set up an independent, open enquiry into the cases of the Tottenham 3;
- to "criminalise" "marital rape", to call for more female judges and give existing judges compulsory special training about rape;
- to review the case of Sarah Thornton and other women jailed for killing violent partners;
- to decentralise power and elect regional assemblies, give Parliament a normal working day, abolish the House of Lords and set a spending limit on all political parties for general elections;
- to strengthen local authorities and restore equitable finance;
- in view of recent riots, to seek new measures to help inner cities;
- to set up an integrated transport policy;
- to institute an integrated policy to revitalise rural areas.

## Debates today

Today's conference opens with Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary, outlining environment policy. Delegates will debate resolutions on health, the environment, homes, and arts and leisure.

In the afternoon, Gerald Kaufman will speak on Britain in the world and the conference will consider resolutions on the Middle East, on aid and development, defence, and Northern Ireland.

## Heffer's post-mortem attack

The attacks on Neil Kinnock's leadership continue from all directions, including beyond the grave. The Labour leader was described yesterday as a cynical manipulator with a vindictive trait in a book by left-wing MP Eric Heffer, who died earlier this year.

The timing of the publication is clearly an embarrassment as Heffer, who represented Liverpool's Walton constituency, was always a much-loved figure at the Labour conference. He will be remembered best for the time he walked off the 1985 conference platform as Kinnock made a speech attacking Militant.

The bitterness has not diminished with time. In the book Heffer repeats the

charge of the left wing that Kinnock has abandoned his old beliefs on a range of topics, including nuclear disarmament, trade union rights and the European Community.

"If Labour wins the next election it will be despite, not because of, Kinnock's supposedly 'inspirational leadership,'" he says. "Some will say I am being too harsh and that Neil is really a kind, friendly person. I have not found him so. There is a vindictive trait in him."

Heffer continues: "He has gone farther than Hugh Gaitskell in revising the party's principles, policies and organisation. He has got away with it because the party elected him in the belief that he was a left-wing

leader who would carry out socialist policies. What an illusion that turned out to be."

The book is available at the Labour party shop in the conference centre and was said yesterday to be selling well.

• *Never a Yes Man – The Life and Politics of an Adopted Liverpudlian*, by Eric Heffer (Verso; £16.95).

• Another theory as to why John Major decided to kill speculation about an election this year emerged in Brighton yesterday. Tam Dalyell, MP for Linlithgow, believes that the prime minister may have been forced to "stop dithering" by the Queen so that she could be given a date for the Queen's

speech to open the next session of Parliament.

The date of the Queen's speech, October 31, was announced within 24 hours of Downing Street making it known that there would be no election in November.

Dalyell regards the speed of the announcement as "strange".

• John Smith stopped by the Scotch Whisky Association trade stand at the party conference. As he left a passer-by enquired: "Have you just committed yourself to reducing the tax on Scotch, John?" "Oh no", replied the shadow Chancellor. "We've got enough votes in Scotland."

• If he perseveres with that line, they may not last ...

## Kinnock's hands tied as he puts together his first cabinet team

In three weeks' time, Neil Kinnock's supporters in the parliamentary party will be choosing 18 members of what might turn out to be the next Labour cabinet, Philip Webster reports

LABOUR MPs are only three weeks away from choosing what could turn out to be the first Labour cabinet for 13 years. If Labour wins the election, Neil Kinnock, unlike previous Labour leaders, will have little say over which faces appear at his cabinet table.

The rules have changed since Lord Callaghan of Cardiff put together the last Labour administration. Now 20 of the 22 cabinet places would be taken by people who have been elected in opposition: Mr Kinnock, Roy Hattersley, his deputy, and the 18 elected members of the shadow cabinet. Nominations for all the posts open next Wednesday.

The remaining two, the Lord Chancellor, and leader of the House of Lords, will be in Mr Kinnock's gift as will the portfolios allocated to the cabinet members. After so long out of office Labour pundits are delighted to be able to indulge in the sport of cabinet-making again.

The liveliest speculation surrounds the jobs in the Lords. Lord Richard,

was formerly a junior Labour minister, a British permanent representative to the UN, and a European commissioner, is emerging as a contender to be the first Labour Lord Chancellor since 1979. He may just pip to the post Lord Irvine of Lairg, Labour's spokesman on home affairs in the Lords, who has seemed destined for the woolsack since he was made a life peer in 1987. Or Mr Kinnock might strike a blow for sex equality by choosing Lady Mallalieu, QC, the barrister and farmer.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, who has been leader of the Labour peers for nine years, could be rewarded by being made leader of the Lords. He will be 75 in September.

Lady Blackstone, master of Birkbeck college, chairman of the Institute of Public Policy Research, the left's main think-tank, and a close adviser to the Labour leader, would be a younger candidate. She has been in the Lords for four years and as a spokesman on education and Treasury matters her reputation is growing quickly. Her main

rival will be Lord Williams of Elvel, chairman of the price commission under the last Labour government, deputy leader of the Labour peers and a frontbench spokesman on a range of issues, including the economy and defence.

As prime minister, Mr Kinnock would not be bound to keep the same cabinet. The rules, drawn up by the parliamentary Labour party, apply only to his first cabinet. In theory, he could disband it within weeks and appoint his own. In practice, that will not happen. The Labour leader would be too busy in those early days to invite an open revolt from

his MPs. The renewed sense of optimism in Brighton about Labour's chances of power means that Labour MPs will approach their task with extra care when they start voting in two weeks. This time they might be electing substance, not shadow. In practice, there are unlikely to be big changes. Mr Kinnock could be expected to leave his first cabinet in place for some time, probably a year. Thereafter he would reward the achievers and discard the indifferent performers.

Most Labour MPs believe that Mr Kinnock's home secretary would be Mr Hattersley, his foreign secretary Gerald

Kaufman, and his Chancellor of the Exchequer John Smith. It is unlikely that Mr Kinnock would want to move other figures such as Bryan Gould (environment), Robin Cook (health), Gordon Brown (trade and industry), Tony Blair (employment), John Prescott (transport), Frank Dobson (energy) or Michael Meacher (social security) from their present portfolios. Jack Cunningham, the present shadow Commons leader, would be given the defence portfolio.

The first Labour cabinet would have to be appointed before any Whitehall re-organisation that Mr Kinnock might want to execute. Jobs now held by

shadow cabinet members that do not directly correspond to an existing cabinet place (Jo Richardson, women; Ann Taylor, environment protection; Ann Clwyd, overseas development) would have to be attached to other departments. Barry Jones and Donald Dewar pick themselves as the Welsh and Scottish secretaries.

A difficulty for Mr Kinnock could emerge if Kevin McNamara again fails to be elected to the shadow cabinet. He is shadow Northern Ireland secretary and would be first choice for the job. Mr Kinnock, however, would clearly prefer the job to go to a minister of cabinet rank to avoid the risk of any offence in Ulster. He cannot merely create another place in the cabinet. The Ministerial and Other Salaries Act, 1975, limits the number of "first tier" or cabinet, salaries to 21, excluding that of the Lord Chancellor. Unless someone is prepared to do the job for nothing, Mr Kinnock has no leeway in the matter.

Mr Kinnock's cabinet would strike an important blow for women. John Major's has no women members. Labour's rule requiring MPs to vote for at least three women means that there will be no such omission. Margaret Beckett (shadow Treasury chief secretary), Ms Richardson, Mrs Taylor and Ms Clwyd already have their places in the shadow team.



## Charter of new rights pledged

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

### CONSTITUTION

A VISION of Britain where power is in the hands of the people was put before the conference yesterday by Roy Hattersley, the party's deputy leader, when he opened a wide-ranging debate on the constitution.

He promised a charter of rights, including freedom of information, reform of the courts, devolution of power away from the cabinet and abolition of the House of Lords. The conference carried resolutions committing a Labour government to improve the rights of many disadvantaged groups, including the disabled, ethnic minorities, immigrants and refugees.

Mr Hattersley said the greatest of all rights was the right to know the truth. He promised that a Labour government would introduce a freedom of information bill within its first year.

It would outlaw racial discrimination and set up a more powerful Commission for Racial Equality. It would alter the immigration laws to bring together families kept apart for years.

Labour's plans for the courts, he said, would allow a new breath of fresh air to blow through them. There would be a sentencing council to bring consistency; legal aid would be made more widely available; efficiency of courts would be improved. "It is absurd that the courts are organised for the convenience of judges."

There would be an inspector of courts with the task of dragging the administration of justice into the twentieth century. "Judges who find that an unacceptably revolutionary proposal will have no obligation to remain on the bench until their eightieth birthday."

The party intended to limit the power of arbitrary government by ending the royal prerogative. Ministers would be obliged to act only with the authority of Parliament.

Mr Hattersley was cheered as he promised to abolish the House of Lords and replace it with an elected second chamber. "A party that looks to the future cannot preserve such a relic of the past – a past built on patronage, privilege and the denial of the basic concept of elected democracy," he said.

Ramess Kollai of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians moved a motion calling on a Labour government to correct Conservative damage to public service broadcasting and to provide a statutory right of reply to inaccuracies in the press. He said that the removal of funds was damaging the quality of television.

Michael Barrett, National League for the Blind and Disabled, moved a motion calling for a new commitment to removing the discrimination and disadvantage suffered by disabled people.

Edith Nicholl, Doncaster Councillor, said deaf people did not have party political broadcasts in their first language, British sign language.

Donald Dewar, shadow Scottish secretary, said that Labour was promising a new deal to the Scots. It would end the farce whereby ministers talked to Scotland but did not listen to it.

## Health chiefs ban sleeping pill over fear of side effects

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE world's most widely prescribed sleeping pill was abruptly withdrawn by the health department yesterday because of fears that it could cause psychiatric side effects.

The decision to withdraw Halcion, the leading brand, and similar medicines containing triazolam was recommended by the government's Committee on the Safety of Medicines. About one and a half million prescriptions for the drug are issued in Britain every year.

The decision infuriated Upjohn, the American manufacturer of Halcion. "There is absolutely no scientific or medical evidence that warrants withdrawal of Halcion tablets in the UK or any other country," Theodore Cooper, chairman of Upjohn, said in New York last night. The company has until November 8 to appeal against the health department's action.

In announcing the withdrawal, William Asscher, chairman of the committee,

said: "It is now considered that the risks of treatment with triazolam outweigh the benefits." A much higher frequency of psychiatric side effects, particularly loss of memory and depression, was associated with it than with other benzodiazepine drugs, Professor Asscher said.

The health department said this link was shown by information recently made available to the committee. It appeared to be confirmed by doctors' reports of similar adverse reactions among their patients. 390 cases had been recorded, including 161 reports of psychiatric reactions.

The health department said patients using triazolam should consult their doctors before stopping their treatment. The psychiatric reactions were reversible, it said.

Human insulin is unlikely to be linked with serious side effects suffered by many diabetics, experts said.

The genetically engineered version of the hormone, in-

troduced in the past ten years to replace insulin derived from animals, has been suspected of masking warning signs of sudden falls in blood sugar levels, or hypoglycaemia. If unrecognised, such drops can lead to patients becoming unconscious. Usually, symptoms such as sweating, shaking and hunger alert them to seek help.

Many patients believe, however, that since they switched from animal insulin, the symptoms no longer occur.

Some studies have produced evidence supporting their belief, but the research was criticised by specialists yesterday at a meeting organised in London by the British Diabetic Association.

Harry Keen, chairman of the association's executive council, said: "The evidence against human insulin is very weak, but is causing an enormous amount of anxiety. We want to reassure patients that there is very little foundation for their worries."



Rescue talk: Colin Groves, left, and Colin Dennis, in front of a wheelhouse of the Geevor mine they are trying to save before it floods

## Team fights to save tin mine from the sea

By JOHN YOUNG

AN HISTORIC Cornish tin mine will be lost to the sea forever unless a rescue can be started in the next ten days.

The Geevor mine is spectacu-

larily located on the Land's End peninsula, overlooking the Atlantic, just outside the village of Pendeen. There is evidence that it was worked at least as early as the 16th century, and it was the scene of the Levant disaster in 1919 when a beam engine collapsed, sending 31 miners

plunging to their deaths. A slump in world tin prices last year led to the end of working 20 months ago, but the mine remained open to tourists. Eric Grayson, then chairman of the owning company, Geevor, said that pump-

ing would continue to prevent flooding but would cease if there were no prospect of the mine becoming profitable again within three years.

At the end of last August, however, the mine was closed to the public and the pumps switched off. Deep below the 2½ miles of tunnels that run below the fields, the cliffs and the ocean, the water is rising at an estimated four to seven feet a day.

Within ten days at the most it will have reached the critical Fifteen Level, 1,500ft below the surface, at which point the pumps, switches and electrical circuits will be flooded and all chances of saving the mine will vanish. The water could then be expected to continue rising until it reached sea level, about 300ft below the top of the highest shaft.

The attempt to avert that is

being led by Colin Groves, landlord of the Tin Mine Tavern in Trewellard near by. He and two friends, Daphne Quarby and Colin Dennis, who managed the mine's visitor centre until its closure, are seeking a backer to pay the company to switch the pumps back on and eventually to buy the mine. They have attracted an impressive amount of interest and support. English Heritage has acknowledged

the mine's historic importance to Cornish life and its officials visited the site yesterday.

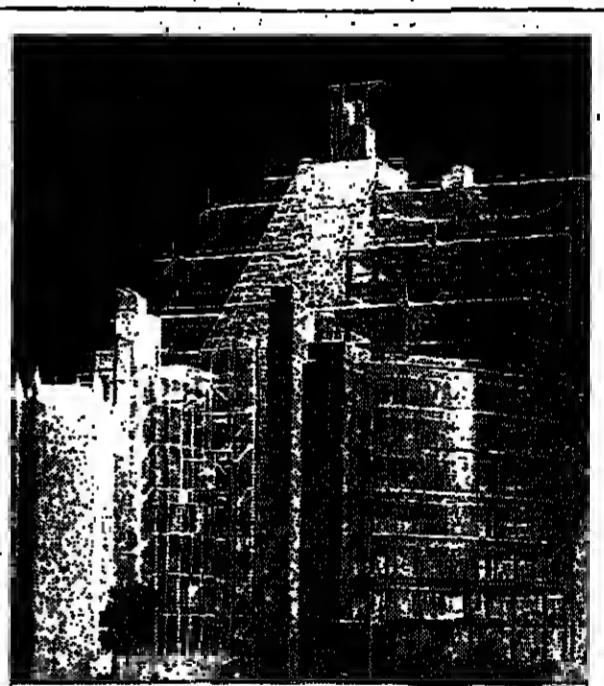
The National Trust has been engaged with the Trevithick Society for Industrial Archaeology in restoring the Levant steam engine, for which it recently received an EC grant. Cornwall county council has indicated that it

would be prepared to consider a 100 per cent grant for landscaping. Penwith district council has said it will do

everything in its powers to help.

The Queen, who opened a new undersea shaft in 1980, has expressed interest, although the Prince of Wales, who as Duke of Cornwall owns the mineral rights, has yet to comment. Two other tin mines survived until February this year, but Wheal Jane is now closed and South Crofty, although nominally still producing, is not in the same category as Geevor as a tourist attraction.

The mine is the only place in Britain where visitors can descend 1,500ft and the benefits to the local economy from a centre would be considerable, Mr Groves says. He believes that £500,000 would be enough to buy the mine and provide working capital for its development.



Glass tower: a model of what may be a sequel to the much-acclaimed, if controversial, Lloyd's building. The Richard Rogers Partnership proposes it as a 340,000 sq ft European headquarters for Daiwa Securities, the Japanese broker. (Marcus Binney writes).

The building in the City would be entered via a grand staircase in Wood Street and would overlook London

Wall. In contrast to Lloyd's battleship exterior, Daiwa's building would be a transparent glass palace. The model suggests that, from many angles, one could look through it to the sky.

Lightness and elegance are dominant characteristics, with an emphasis on smooth surfaces and slender structural supports. Upper floors step back two storeys at a time.

## Tourism plays its aristocratic card

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

VISCOUNT Ullswater, the minister for tourism, is being sent to the United States to try to convince Americans that they have nothing to fear in coming to Britain.

In the first seven months of this year the number of American visitors fell by 27 per cent compared with the same period last year, wiping millions of pounds from the country's income. While the number of European visitors rose by 7 per cent in July compared with the same month last year, the number of Americans fell by 16 per cent.

Americans are apparently still fearful of terrorism in the aftermath of the Gulf war. Lord Ullswater, who sets off on Monday, said: "Even the incident in the Baghdad car park involving the UN inspectors seemed to unsettle them."

The strong dollar and the

recession are also being blamed for the slump and Lord Ullswater will be seeking to assure potential visitors that Britain is affordable.

British officials have arranged radio and newspaper interviews for the minister but a prime time television appearance has eluded them. Now they are playing the aristocracy card, pointing out to producers that Lord Ullswater is a product of the British aristocracy, having succeeded his great-grandfather at the age of seven and that he was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge.

Lord Ullswater said: "I am prepared to use the fact that I sit in the House of Lords to raise interest. I want to explain to as many people as possible that we are a safe, country brimming with historic attractions and affordable too."

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## Imprisoned Tontons Macoute chief dies in coup

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

THE exiled leader of Haiti, President Aristide, flew to Washington yesterday to appeal to the international community for economic and diplomatic sanctions against the military plotters who ousted his democratically elected government three days ago.

Administration officials here were expected to greet Father Aristide in a public show of support before a formal meeting with him today. As he arrived, the streets of the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, crackled with sporadic gunfire after a dusk-to-dawn curfew, while soldiers cleared away barricades erected by his supporters.

The former head of the Tontons Macoute secret police was killed in prison by a soldier during the military takeover, the coup leader said. Brigadier-General Raoul Cedras told French radio that Roger Lafontant, the interior minister under the former dictator, Jean-Claude Duvalier, was killed on Sunday night. Lafontant was serving a life sentence for his role in a coup attempt last January against Father Aristide.

Accusing President Aristide of endangering the country's democratic institutions, General Cedras said the president's move to set up a parallel police force had been a crucial factor in the decision to stage a coup. Father Aristide, a Roman Catholic priest chosen to head the



Plotter's defence: Cedras on television yesterday

PHILADELPHIA NOTEBOOK by Peter Stothard

### Chuck checks on the max factor

TO MAX OUT? That is the question facing Lyndon Johnson's son-in-law, Senator Charles Robb, as he struggles to contain the damage to his own presidential prospects from his nude massage (that is as far as it went, he says) with beauty queen and *Playboy* model Tai Collins.

By one of the many complexities of American political life, it is Senator Robb, of Virginia, who has the biggest role in how hard the Democrats will fight to win this year's only Senate race in Pennsylvania. Senator Robb controls the committee which allocates central Democrat funds for the contest between Harris Wofford, a former John F. Kennedy aide, and the Republican favourite, Richard Thornburgh, who recently resigned as attorney-general.

If Senator Robb spends the maximum legal amount on Mr Wofford's behalf, \$983,917.90 (about £63,200), and Mr Wofford wins, the embarrassed Virginian will be a hero. If he "maxes out" and Mr Wofford is massively defeated, Senator Robb will be accused of wasting money that could have been better spent in election year, 1992. If he holds back the moneys and Mr Wofford is narrowly defeated, the name of Chuck Robb will be even more muddied than it has been made by this year's sex and drug party allegations. At the moment he is offering \$500,000. As Philadelphia Democrats ruefully remark, "half-maxing is what he said he did with Miss Collins".

ONE of Philadelphia's biggest centres for "shaking down" big-time political contributors is the Rittenhouse hotel, which dominates the central square where aristocrats lived when the city was both great and British. Last week at the hotel, they launched Philadelphia's first British-

American chamber of commerce in order to try to patch up relations.

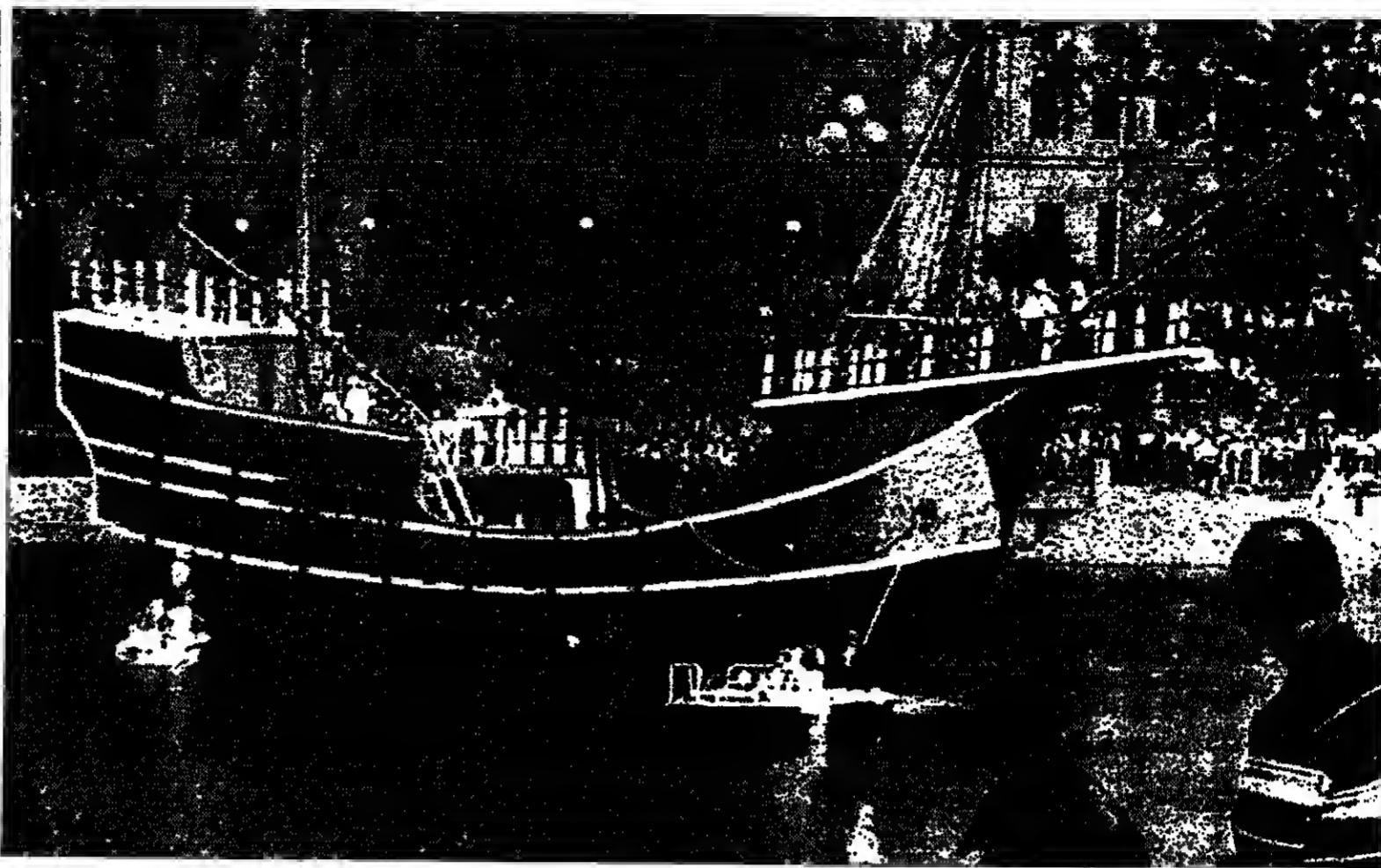
A special English breakfast of sausages, bacon and kippers was served to the 50 representatives of British Airways, Smith Kline Beecham and assorted law firms. The British side, led by lawyer chairman Clive Anderson, reminisced about kipper mornings in their prep-schools. The Americans soberly contemplated their cholesterol counters.

THE breakfasters were gathered to discuss the prospects for a British general election and the impact of a would-be Labour government upon trade policy. Confusing? Not compared with the Philadelphia race for mayor.

Until July, the Republican candidate was the former city police chief, Frank Rizzo, who many blacks saw as a racist and many whites as an angel of law and order. When Rizzo died, the choice was passed to the last old-style Republican city boss in America, William Meehan.

He named J. Egan, a comfortable choice for Republicans who recalled two past losing mayoral campaigns by John Egan in 1983 and 1987. Mr Meehan's candidate, however, was Joseph Egan, a previously obscure property magnate. The well-known John Egan was, instead, to be Joseph's campaign manager, a job he later gave up, citing conflicts of interest.

ALL this is unlikely, however, to help the Republicans. Philadelphia's grandiose city hall, topped by the seven-times life-size statue of its first proprietor and governor, William Penn, today houses one of the country's most bankrupt administrations. The Democrats are likely to have spent more than \$4 million by the time their candidate is elected to keep their party's hold on the ruins.



Voyage of rediscovery: a replica of Santa Maria, the flagship of Christopher Columbus in which he sailed to the New World in 1492, anchored yesterday in Columbus, Ohio, the city which bears the

name of the discoverer of America. Three cranes lowered the 95-ton ship into the Scioto river, and two boats towed it to its permanent mooring on the opposite bank. It will become part of the city's 500th

anniversary celebration of Columbus' voyage to the New World. The 98ft ship's hull was built at a shipyard in New York, and shipped to Columbus in halves. The boat will be christened on Columbus

Day, October 14, at the start of ten days' festivities launching the city's Columbus celebration. The building of the second Santa Maria cost a local non-profit-making group \$1.5 million (£260,000). (AP)

## Aquino gives US 36-month notice

From ABBY TAN

IN MANILA

THE United States will be given three years to withdraw its forces from the Philippines. President Aquino announced yesterday. She said that the US embassy was informed of her decision and that Washington need not pay rent during the 36-month period.

"Today I have decided that the Philippines government will negotiate and execute an executive agreement with the US government for the withdrawal of US military forces within a period not exceeding three years," Mrs Aquino told reporters. A US embassy spokesman said: "We have taken note of the president's statement and we have referred it in Washington." US officials had said Washington would be amicable to a three-year rent-free withdrawal.

The Philippines Senate last month voted 12-11 to reject a new treaty allowing the Americans to use Subic Bay naval base for ten years at a cost of \$2.2 billion (£1.25 billion). Mrs Aquino had wanted to hold a referendum, but desisted after legal advice.

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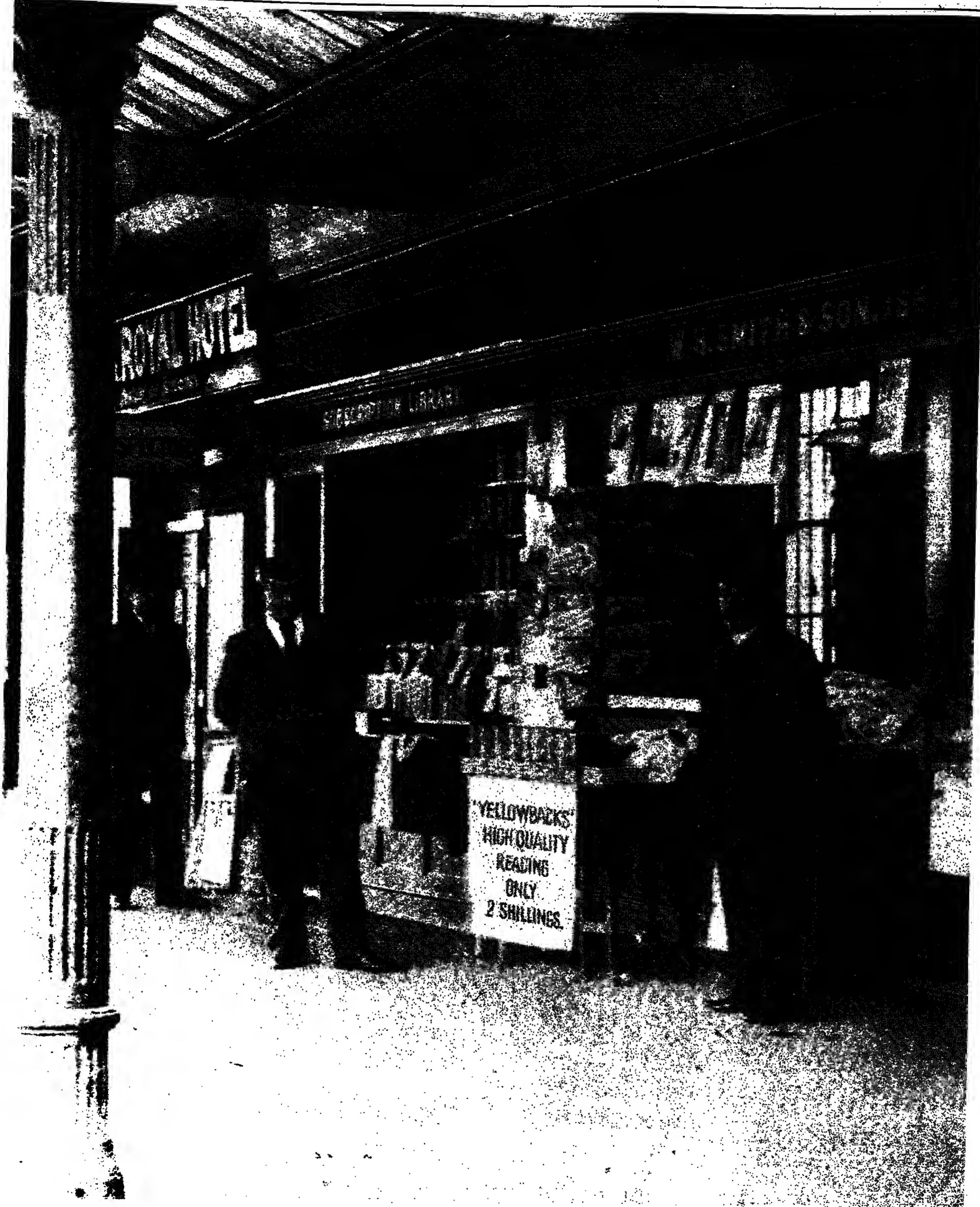
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## WE STARTED A CUT BELOW THE REST.

When it came to selecting books for a journey, Victorian travellers had to contend with novels that came in three volume editions and cost thirty shillings. A dickens of a price.

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Togo coup  
plot to be  
investigated

Kenya attack

Min sacked

Defence talks

Forbidden kiss

Belgian host  
upsets Euro

## Troops return to looting as Mobutu clings on to power

From SAM KILEY IN KINSHASA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

HOPES that Zaire's new prime minister, Etienne Tshisekedi, appointed by Mr Mobutu to lead a new government after last week's looting by troops in which 117 people died, denounce Mr Mobutu as a monster yesterday and said: "I am prime minister by the people's will. I am not Mr Mobutu's prime minister." He was preparing his speech to the national conference where he insists he will be sworn in, dismissing Mr Mobutu's demand that the ceremony take place at the parliament, which is packed with members of the president's Popular Movement for the Revolution (MPR).

But Mr Mobutu, who has ruled Zaire for 26 years and survived two secessionist uprisings in the 1970s, is boxing clever again. On Tuesday night, as diplomats and foreign observers in Kinshasa were finally convinced by Mr Tshisekedi's insistence that he was prime minister, head of the armed forces and in charge of foreign affairs, Mr Mobutu refused to cede control over key portfolios.

Appearing on television, he insisted that the only deal struck – and not yet signed by himself or opposition politicians after three days' intensive talks – dated back to July and involved equal power-sharing. He also insisted that the MPR would defend the interests of the younger generation at the conference.

Faith in Mr Tshisekedi has been eroded by his erroneous claims that Mr Mobutu had accepted that the presidency would be purely honorary. But the new prime minister hit back yesterday. "I have always considered (Mobutu) to be a human monster ... without law, morals, principles ... who is ready to do anything to further his interests," he told Belgian radio. "My government will quite simply ignore Mr Mobutu ... I do not intend to share power with anyone, whoever it may be."

About 60 renegade soldiers seized broadcasting stations on Tuesday but then returned to barracks on the orders of the military president, Gnassingbe Eyadema. Lome was calm as Joseph Koffigah, the prime minister, met defence officials to discuss the assault on his government, which aims to end 24 years of military dictatorship. No arrests have been made, but reports said Narcisse Djona, a dismissed army officer, may be implicated. (Reuters)

### Renamo attack

Maputo – Renamo rebels killed 57 people in an attack on a village inside a negotiated ceasefire zone in the Limpopo valley, in southern Mozambique, and fled with 100 captured peasants, according to Major Paulo Lapisone, the local military commander. (Reuters)

### Maori sacked

Wellington – Jim Bolger, the New Zealand prime minister, sacked Winston Peters, the Maori affairs minister and sole cabinet Maori, replacing him with Doug Kidd, a non-Maori. The move, which was condemned by several Maori leaders, followed a campaign by Mr Peters against government economic policies.

### Defence talks

Paris – France is discussing a defence agreement with Kuwait, Tarek Razouq, the Kuwaiti ambassador to Paris, said. The proposal was similar to accords reached with Washington and under discussion with Britain. (Reuters)

### Forbidden kiss

Milan – Italian censors have banned an advertisement by the fashion retailer, Benetton, showing a nun kissing a priest on the mouth. (Reuters)

## Belgian hostility upsets Eurocrats

From GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

QUARRELS between landlords and tenants are as old as houses, but in the "capital of Europe" the old friction now has a new twist. The city's largest tenant, the European Community, alleges its landlord, Belgium, is guilty of harassment.

Eurocrats, who happened to be on strike yesterday, are being spat on in public. Stickers are appearing on lamp-posts showing Euro-pigs littering the streets. Other labels, in Flemish, attack "Europarasites". Flemish demonstrators marched through Brussels this spring to protest at the invasion of villages outside Brussels by foreigners who have come to work at or near the EC's headquarters.

The EC's own pollsters asked samples in each of the community's 12 states whether they would be sorry, relieved or indifferent if they were told that the EC was to be wound up. More than half the Belgians (54 per cent) said they would be "indifferent" – this from people who are also strongly in favour of uniting Europe and think EC membership is good for Belgium. Belgians like the EC, but more and



Parking find: a 12.5-ton, 19th-century cannon is lifted near Hong Kong's Wanchai district where it was unearthed in an underground car-park development

## Vietnam agrees to forced returns

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

VIETNAM has agreed to accept the forced repatriation of thousands of boat people from Hong Kong, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said in Geneva yesterday.

The move opens the way for the first refugees, who refuse to return to Vietnam from several South-East Asian countries and Hong Kong, to be flown home within weeks, diplomats and refugee workers said. Silvana Foa, a commissioner spokeswoman, said Hanoi had "offered to take back the Vietnamese economic migrants determined not to be refugees". She added that the UNHCR "knows about this offer, but we will not be involved in this operation".

Mandatory repatriation had been the main focus of five days of talks between officials from Vietnam, Britain, Hong Kong and the United States that ended in Hanoi last Friday. The UNHCR was an observer. America has in the past repeatedly voiced strong opposition to forced refugee repatriation.

FROM New York, Tel Aviv or even Tehran the closing chapters of the hostage saga might suggest a happy, if predictable ending, with the gradual release of the remaining Western, Lebanese and Israeli prisoners in a drawn-out process conducted through the United Nations.

But here in this strip of border territory between Israel and Lebanon, the conclusion is far from complete, as local officials attempt at the last minute to attach their own conditions on the multinational trade in human life which must pass through their hands. Yesterday two rival Lebanese leaders, one a leading fundamentalist cleric in Tyre, the other the head of Israel's surrogate militia, attempted to set their own demands.

General Ananine Lahd, the leader of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army, said that he would not contemplate any further releases of the hundreds of his countrymen detained at his detention centre in the village of Khiam unless he in return received forward (James Bone writes).

Diplomats said tentative US plans to hold the Middle East peace conference at the end of the month meant that the signing of the UN-backed Cambodian peace accord would now take place in Paris on October 23.

information about eight of his missing men.

His comments were the mirror image of Tyre's leading fundamentalist Shia Muslim, Sheikh Ali Yassin, a close associate of Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed group whose members are held by Israel and who in turn are behind the abduction of Westerners in Beirut. He said: "As long as Israel holds our land and our people any solution will take a long time. We do not want a situation where all the Israelis are free but Lahd is still able to occupy our lands," he said.

• New York: America has asked governments to keep open the final days of this month for a possible Middle East peace conference, causing the Paris conference on Cambodia scheduled for October 30 and 31 to be brought forward (James Bone writes).

Diplomats said tentative US plans to hold the Middle East peace conference at the end of the month meant that the signing of the UN-backed Cambodian peace accord would now take place in Paris on October 23.

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## Federal war machine bears down on splendours of Dubrovnik

THE battering ram of Yugoslavia's civil war threatened to breach the medieval walled city of Dubrovnik yesterday, as fighting closed in on one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

The perfectly preserved baroque and renaissance splendour of Dubrovnik was surrounded by federal forces and cut off from the rest of the country as the army severed power, water, communications and roads to the city.

The city walls, up to 18 feet thick, a mile and quarter in circumference and among the most imposing fortifications in the world, are now charged with trying to protect a treasure-store of churches, museums and palaces interlaced with secret stairway-alleys. The main street, the *Placa*, was built over a sea channel which once separated the city.

and its smooth stone paving has been buffed to a deep shine by centuries of sunning feet.

Among Dubrovnik's most cherished belongings are the Sponza Palace, a former customs house which now houses archives and the Museum of the Socialist Revolution; the Dominican church which houses a Titian painting and the baroque cathedral which is home to a collection of Byzantine gold and silver. All these are now under threat.

The federal blockade has isolated a strip of land where the port is located, running 50 miles along the coast from Gruda, near the Montenegrin border, north to Slano. The city was peppered by grenade and bomb fragments during the fighting and city officials have pleaded for international help. "Grenades hit churches,

The tourists have fled. A few young residents promenade in designer battle fatigues as Yugoslav forces surround the historic city. Eve-Ann Prentice reports

hotels, an airport, yacht marina, petrol stations, the Adriatic highway, family homes and other facilities," the radio said. Besieged monitors sent to by the European Community have been forced to flee the Argentine hotel just outside the city walls after it was hit by bomb fragments, according to Hina, the Croatian news agency.

Wooden shields and scaffolding have been erected in an attempt to guard the city's heart, but the ramparts that once offered asylum to Richard the Lionheart stood naked.

Dubrovnik's merestile achievements prompted the

poetic word for an adventurous merchant ship, *argosy*, taken from the Italian name for the city, Ragusa.

An earthquake in 1667 destroyed the city's prosperity for nearly 150 years, until the Napoleonic wars saw it rise again as the only neutral Mediterranean state between 1800 and 1805. Napoleon eventually subjugated Dubrovnik in 1806 and the Congress of Vienna bestowed the city on Austria. It became a part of Yugoslavia in 1918.

Dubrovnik was abandoned to its fate in June by the thousands of tourists who usually throng its polished streets. More than 90 of the city's hundred or so hotels have closed. Even those hotels which stayed open, such as the Argentina, have been doomed in darkness as management have sought to save

money on the electricity which reportedly is now cut off. However, small crowds do emerge at dusk — mostly young sons and daughters of rich locals showing off their designer clothes or, more sinisterly, their starched and yet unsold designer battle fatigues.

The mayor is desperate. "The fighting and the suffering come closer and closer," Pero Poljanic said. "Two relatively moderate commanders of the so-called federal navy have been stripped of their commands and are now in prison. They have been replaced by extremists who are committed to the idea of annexing this part of Croatia ... we have never been in greater danger."

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 16  
Leading article, page 17



Tranquillity in the firing line. Dubrovnik has been transformed from tourist attraction to strategic prize.

## Conflict puts loyalty of Yugoslav army to test

From ROGER BOYES, EAST EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

ON PAPER, the Croats would not stand a chance against the Yugoslav army if they were all-out war. The official strength of the federal army is 180,000 officers and men, while the Croatian national guard has at best 70,000.

The Yugoslav air force has more than 400 combat aircraft — including 130 MIG21 interceptors and 150 Galeb fighters — giving it unchallenged command of the air. The army also has one of the biggest tank forces in southern Europe, with more than 700, admittedly old, T54s and more than 100 modern T72s.

The Croats have no combat planes and only 120 captured tanks. They have light anti-

aircraft guns and some reports say they have bought Stinger missiles. If true, they have so far been kept in reserve.

The military picture, however, is not so straightforward. The loyalty of the army, comprising about 42,000 professional officers and 138,000 conscripts, is under strain.

Serbs dominate the officer corps: 103 generals, or 70 per cent, are Serbs or ethnically similar Montenegrins or define themselves as Yugoslavs. For the past month the army has been weeding out non-Serbs from the general staff and the middle-ranking officer corps.

There are signs, too, that not all the Serb generals support Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president. A group of senior commanders known as "modernisers" support General Veljko Kadijevic, the defence minister, and seem to believe in a reformed federal Yugoslavia because only such a united state could support the existence of a large army.

Over the summer, General Kadijevic said that Yugoslavia no longer exists. His aim now appears to be to save what he can of the army, if necessary by waging war with Croatia. The lifting of sieges of army barracks in Croatia has become, for him, a matter of pride rather than a step towards a conquest of Croatia.

Not so for the influential General Blagoje Adzic, his chief of staff, who promised in July that the army "would carry things through to the end". It is unclear how the officer corps would splinter if there were an all-out war.

Serbs account for 42 per cent of the army conscripts, Montenegrins for more than 9 per cent and "Yugoslavs" for 10 per cent. The remainder is actively hostile to a territorial war. Alja Izetbegovic, the president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, has been urging Bosnians to desert or dodge the draft. Croats and Slovenes have been deserting in droves.

An intake of conscripts 12 days ago was less than complete. Even reserves from Serbia and Serbian-dominated areas have been refusing to turn up. Some prefer to serve in the Serbian national guard of the opposition leader, Vuk Draskovic, since they view the conflict as a communist war.



Fruits of militancy: a Romanian boy in the pit town of Petrosani showing off apples made available after coalminers halted their Bucharest protests and ended their strike

## Belgrade warning on energy

From REUTER  
IN BELGRADE

THE Yugoslav government, struggling to control an economy battered by weeks of fighting, said yesterday that the country's energy reserves were dangerously low.

The federal administration said: "The reserves of energy raw materials, especially liquid fuels, have fallen to a critical level which threatens the functioning of the country's power supply system." It called for the protection of power plants, saying their destruction could create an ecological catastrophe.

The army has threatened to destroy Croatia's strategic industries, including power supplies, if Croatian forces continue to attack federal soldiers. Industrial production in the first eight months of the year was down 17.3 per cent, year-on-year inflation soared to almost 130 per cent in September, and the number of jobless has jumped to about 20 per cent.

Croatia adopted its own measures yesterday to help alleviate the consequences of the conflict by imposing a 4.5 per cent income tax levy. It banned exports and commodity trade outside its territory.

## Georgia rebels pledge defiance

From ROBERT SEELEY IN TBILISI

ARMED rebels vowed yesterday to defy Georgian government forces in Tbilisi, where shooting was reported near the main television station. The amnesty offered to the opposition by Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the president, ends at midnight today.

An armed group fired on a Soviet military train carrying rockets and other supplies for troops garrisoned in Georgia, injuring at least four people. A government spokesman said rebels had tried to plant explosives on the train while it was in a suburb of Tbilisi. On Sunday an explosion damaged the entrance of the rebel-

held television station and shooting followed.

Mr Gamsakhurdia has not openly threatened to attack the rebels when the amnesty expires but one of his aides, Giorgi Shengalava, hinted at an eventual armed response.

"The force of the Georgian people would be used to end the political deadlock," he said.

"I cannot give a guarantee for the future but for now we do not plan to use the military there."

He described the rebels, who include national guard units, as members of the intelligentsia "who fared well under the Soviet authorities".

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 16

## Westerners nurse hangover of togetherness

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

A recent poll in *Der Spiegel* found that 34 per cent of

Germans have been suffering a hangover and blaming it on their new countrymen from the east. A cruel anniversary date sums up the attitude: "What is the difference between Red Army Faction terrorists and Ossis?" The terrorists still have sympathisers. For the Wessi,

the Ossi was pot-bellied, lacking in initiative and naive. Wessi resentment is largely economic. Thousands had to cancel or cut back trips abroad because of tax rises and surcharges imposed to fund unification. Inflation has climbed close to 5 per cent, interest rates have risen and trade has gone into the red. There is o

rapidly worsening housing shortage. Much of the predictable pattern of West German life has been undermined by the attempt to absorb an alien system too rapidly. So the Ossi are prime targets for abuse, and this is making real unification more difficult.

Leading article, page 17

## East settles for tea-time without sympathy

From ANNE McELVOY IN BERLIN

GERMANY celebrates the first anniversary of its unification today in the time-honoured tradition of its national holidays: by closing everything down and staying at home.

The shops and most restaurants will be shut, the streets deserted. Those who had not been well organised enough to get in the essentials for the inevitable coffee and cake sessions will have to do without. But then, this being Germany, they will all have thought of it well in advance. East and West Germans now share the same holidays. October 3, the Day of Unity, has replaced June 17, a bank holiday in the West since 1953 to mark the East Berlin uprising quelled by Soviet tanks.

Easterners are happy to have gained several days of holiday in the past year as they are now included in the church feast days, such as

image of millions of German families all sitting down separately on their respective sides of the no longer extant border to mark their unity probably reflects accurately the state of noo-integration.

Since unification, the initial enthusiasm for rediscovering lost relatives and old friends has paled. The new

reserve applies right across the social spectrum.

T-shirts bearing the message "I want my wall back"

are still selling well on both sides of the Brandenburg Gate. But then the wall is back already, a new barrier not of stone but of indifference to those on the other side of it.

## RAF scrambles for last chance to hunt bandits at 12 o'clock

From IAN MURRAY AT RAF WILDENRATH

AN ERA ended here at noon yesterday as the RAF staged its last "scramble" over Germany to mark the end of its 46-year role in policing the skies of Europe. Since April 1945, at least one fighter had always been on 24-hour standby, armed and ready to take off in five minutes to intercept any unauthorised aircraft entering Western airspace. With the end of the Cold War and the cutback in British forces, that job is over.

Two Phantom FGR2s of 19 Squadron made the final scramble. Formed in 1913, it was the first unit to be equipped with Spitfires and has been part of Nato's front-line defences since 1977.

"We look up to the Spitfire pilots and we follow on their tradition," said Wing Commander Nick Spuler as he waited for the klaxon to blare for the last time. "The difference was they knew they would have to fight when the klaxon went." The pilots on

Waved off: on the tarmac in Wildenrath yesterday

Letters, page 17

Genitals that be  
due to perfectly  
diseases to restore  
telling memory  
Jeremy Lawrence  
reports

ship to take flight — "purely and simply to give the political time to get down the bunker".

In the West, military and intelligence sources said the proposals put forward for converting the four million-strong Soviet armed forces into comparatively slim-line professional services may prove an impossible dream.

The aim of cutting down to about 2.5 million personnel cannot be achieved by the target date of 1994, unless the pruning is carried out ruthlessly, the sources said.

Western military experts believe that, despite the reformist zeal at the top of the Soviet general staff, the inertia which lies at the heart of the military bureaucracy will delay the whole process.

## Police put down jail smog riot

Athens — Police fired scores of rounds of tear gas and fought their way into a cell block at Korydallos prison in Athens to put down a riot by prisoners. The unrest started on Tuesday night when guards forced the inmates back into their cells despite stifling heat and heavy smog.

The prisoners seized the cell block and set mattresses and bedding alight after guards ordered them to return from an exercise yard to their cells, saying it was now officially winter and they must go in an hour earlier regardless of the heat and smog. (Reuters)

## Britons charged

Berlin — Five British skinheads have been charged with grievous bodily harm after wounding a young man in a knife attack. They belong to a London rock band, Screwdriver, which came to Cottbus for a neo-Nazi rally, the chief prosecutor of the eastern city said. A German skinhead has also been charged with grievous bodily harm. (Reuters)

## Driver's reprisal

Paris — A woman driver who ran down and killed a teenage scooter rider who snatched her handbag at traffic lights was convicted of manslaughter and given a one-year suspended jail sentence. (Reuters)

# Who will we thank for the memory?

Scientists may be close to perfecting drugs to restore fading memory, Jeremy Laurance reports

**T**his summer, Glaxo, the multi-national drug company, announced a remarkable discovery. In preliminary tests, its new drug ondansetron was shown to increase memory in a group of people who had complained of becoming increasingly forgetful. Newspaper reports described it as a "revolutionary treatment".

The same week, the BBC television programme *Horizon* reported that up to 100,000 healthy individuals in the United States were now estimated to be taking "smart drugs", also known as "cognitive enhancers", every day, to boost mental capacity.

Is there anything in all of this? Glaxo certainly hopes so. Millions of people, worldwide, suffer problems with their memory. If the mind-boosting properties of its new drug are confirmed, Glaxo would see its share price rocket.

Memory is the key to learning, the workhorse of the intellect. The promise of a pill to boost memory is seductive because it is effortless. More than 160 cognitive enhancers are said to be under development. Many drugs already available, and prescribed for other conditions — such as oxcaracetam, piracetam and hydiazine — have recently been "discovered" to boost mental performance.

British specialists are dismissive of their value. "These drugs have been subjected to many trials, yet they are still unproven," says Professor Gordon Wilcock of the University of Bristol, an expert on the effects of ageing on the brain. Many so-called "smart drugs" are simple vasodilators, which widen the blood vessels, increasing the flow of blood to the brain.

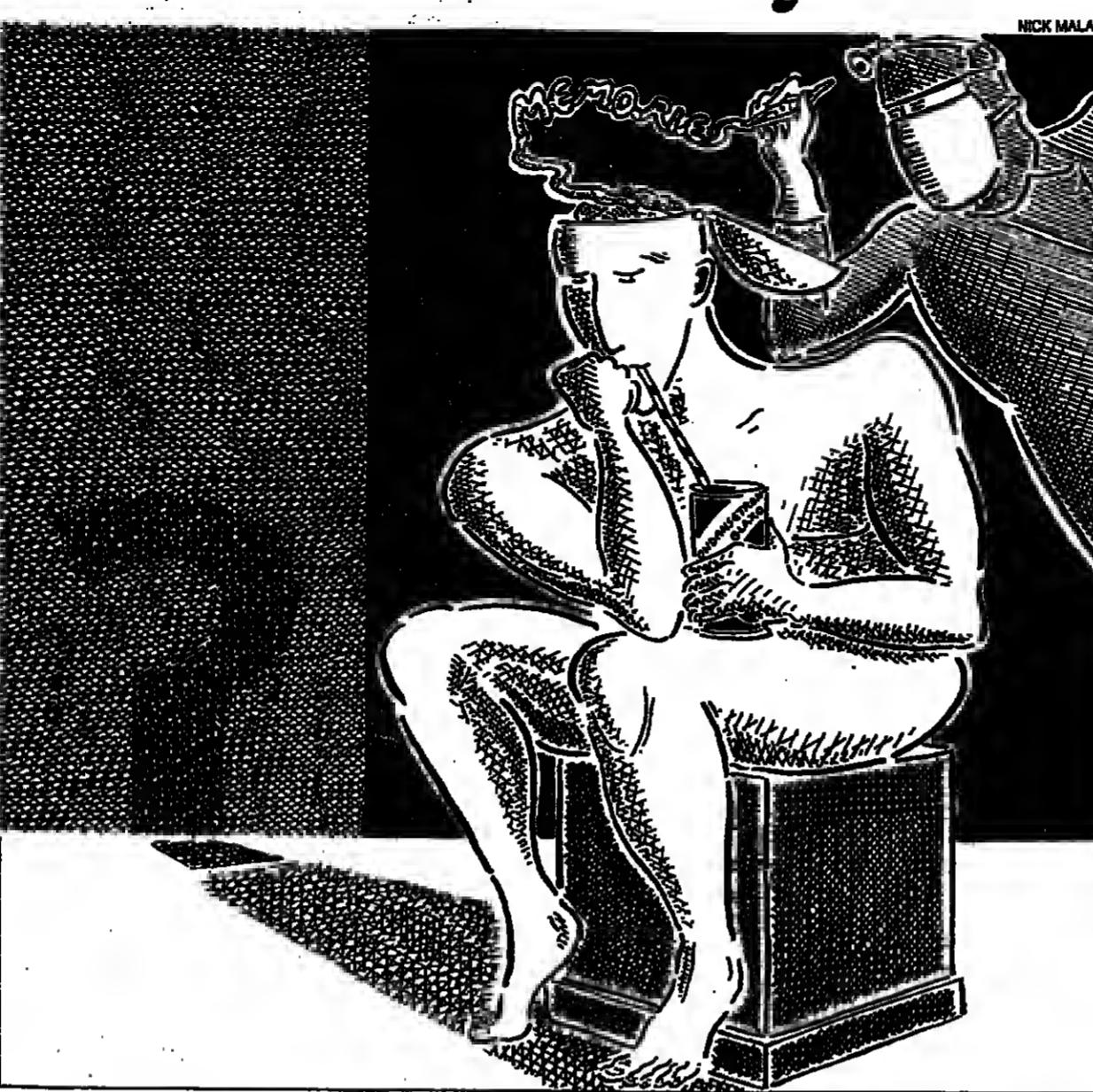
"But if the blood supply is normal there is no reason to suppose a vasodilator will have any effect," says Dr Jill Livingstone, a senior lecturer in the psychiatry of the elderly at University College hospital, London.

Ondansetron, however, could be different. Scientists are now confident that it, or a similar drug, will be developed within the next decade to help those whose memories are failing. The billion dollar question is how many will it help? Only the demented? Or the much larger group of the merely forgetful? Or might a compound emerge which could boost "normal" memory, to become a genuine "smart" drug?

The story of the memory drugs dates from a crucial discovery made in 1976. Scientists investigating Alzheimer's disease — the most common cause of dementia in the elderly, the earliest symptom of which is memory loss — discovered that it was linked with the level of the neurotransmitter (brain chemical) acetylcholine in the brain. The greater the loss of acetylcholine, the worse the dementia. If the acetylcholine level in the brains of sufferers had fallen too low, then restoring it might reverse the condition.

The problem, however, was how to give the acetylcholine. It cannot be given directly because it is digested in the gut or broken down by enzymes in the blood (a problem most "smart" drugs are not smart enough to overcome). For more than a decade researchers looked for an answer. Then, in 1987, the *New England Journal of Medicine* reported that a group of American researchers had given a new drug called tacrine to 14 patients in an advanced state of dementia. The results were dramatic: sufferers previously unable to wash themselves could now play a round of golf.

The discovery was hailed in the medical journals as the most significant medical advance of the decade. Tacrine would change the face of Western society, it was claimed, by defeating the depredations of old age. However, trials of the drug in France, Britain and Australia were disappointing. Tacrine did boost mental performance, but the improvement was limited and



did not last. Dementia is characterised by a progressive deterioration, and the drug could not prevent this. "It is a way of buying a year or two," says Professor Raymond Levy, who conducted one of the most careful trials at the Institute of Psychiatry in London. Some of his patients have been on the drug for three years but, after gaining an initial benefit, they declined again after 18 months.

Tacrine is also being investigated, along with other drugs, by Professor Wilcock at the University of Bristol. "I have, as a minimum target, helping patients regain six months of life — putting them back to where they were six months ago," he says.

In Sheffield, Dr Harvey Sagar, a consultant neurologist at the Royal Hallamshire hospital, is investigating physostigmine, a different drug which operates in a similar way to tacrine.

"The critical difference is that we are using it in a slow release form, so there is much more of a chance of getting a long-lasting effect," he says. A drug derived from physostigmine has also been used in trials at Guy's hospital, London. Despite the disappointments, all the specialists are agreed on one thing: that an effective treatment for Alzheimer's disease is within reach. But will such a treatment also help prevent the ordinary memory loss associated with ageing — and even provide the key to a "super memory" in the young?

Getting answers to these questions requires a basic grasp of how the drugs work. When a message is transmitted from one brain cell to the next an electrical impulse travels down the nerve fibre and has to cross a tiny gap — the synapse — to reach the next nerve fibre. It does this by stimulating the release of a neurotransmitter such as acetylcholine, molecules of which travel across the synapse and lock on to receptors on the next nerve fibre, switching it on. These receptors then release the used acetylcholine — which is broken down by an enzyme called cholinesterase — and await the next chemical messenger.

**P**hystostigmine and tacrine both work by blocking the action of the cholinesterase to prevent the breakdown of acetylcholine, so that it can be re-used. This effectively increases the quantity of acetylcholine — and boosts memory. But experience with the treatment of the muscle disorder myasthenia gravis, in which there is a similar defect of nerve conduction, suggests there is a limit to how high the level can be raised: if the level of brain chemicals rises too high, the molecules block the receptors, so that they cannot receive new messages. Dr Sagar predicts that the same would happen with memory.

capacity: in other words, a memory drug would only be effective where the brain is operating below par. It cannot boost "normal" functioning. "But if you don't already have peak transmission then there is a good theoretical reason why you could boost memory," Dr Sagar says.

Who, then, lacks peak transmission in their memory circuits? Clearly, sufferers from Alzheimer's disease "do". But legions of people, old and young complain about having poor memories. Are they also suffering from a deficiency of acetylcholine? "You are asking what makes people smart, and the answer is we don't know," Dr Livingstone says.

"It is mainly linked with intelligence and learning."

Maintaining the right level of acetylcholine in the brain is, in other words, a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition of a good memory. But it may be that low levels of acetylcholine affect a wider group than sufferers from Alzheimer's.

"There is no reason why these drugs should not boost memory in young people," Dr Sagar says. "In general, the most intelligent people also have good memories. But there is a 'scatter effect' so that some highly intelligent people have unexpectedly poor memories. They would be a very interesting group to give physostigmine."

"If you have a normal

memory it is very unlikely that giving acetylcholine will boost it," Professor Wilcock says. "But if your memory is failing — but you are not suffering from dementia — it may well help."

The issue of who suffers from the loss of memory that could be helped by drugs has become the focus of the debate. The controversy has been fuelled by Glaxo's approach to the development of ondansetron, originally developed as a treatment for schizophrenia.

Who, then, lacks peak transmission in their memory circuits? Clearly, sufferers from Alzheimer's disease "do".

But legions of people, old and young complain about having poor memories. Are they also suffering from a deficiency of acetylcholine? "You are asking what makes people smart, and the answer is we don't know," Dr Livingstone says.

"It is mainly linked with intelligence and learning."

Maintaining the right level of acetylcholine in the brain is, in other words, a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition of a good memory. But it may be that low levels of acetylcholine affect a wider group than sufferers from Alzheimer's.

"There is no reason why these drugs should not boost memory in young people," Dr Sagar says. "In general, the most intelligent people also have good memories. But there is a 'scatter effect' so that some highly intelligent people have unexpectedly poor memories. They would be a very interesting group to give physostigmine."

"If you have a normal

memory it is very unlikely that giving acetylcholine will boost it," Professor Wilcock says. "But if your memory is failing — but you are not suffering from dementia — it may well help."

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MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttaford

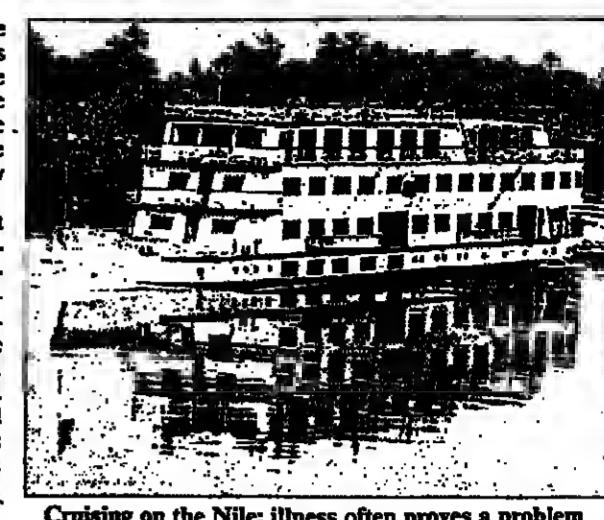
## Pharaoh's curse cure

THERE is no doubt whose side the KLM air hostess would have been on in the rather sharp correspondence about Egyptian water-borne infections which raged in *The Times* letters page a few months ago.

The hostess, on the flight to Cairo, expressed her opinions forthrightly that if travellers to the country developed diarrhoea and vomiting it was a reaction to the sun and not to any organism they might have acquired from the water or from food handled by less than spotless hands. On the other hand, a straw poll among medical colleagues hazarded odds of 60-90 per cent on the likelihood of visitors to the Nile region being laid low by travellers' diarrhoea. This reflected the general view that visiting Egypt is an invitation to act as host to alien strains of *Escherichia coli*, the common cause of travellers' diarrhoea, as well as more serious gut organisms.

Abercrombie & Kent, which runs cruises up the Nile, rejects the "it's only the sun" school of thought and when it launched its second small cruise boat, the company decided to defeat the challenge of infection, which it found was the greatest single deterrent to a Nile cruise.

The staff were determined that guests would be able to sip a gin and tonic with ice, as they viewed the spectacular scenery from deck rather than from a bed strategically



Cruising on the Nile: illness often proves a problem

placed near the bathroom. Before the boat was launched, kitchen staff had seven months' in-house training in food preparation in which hygiene in general, and the need to wash hands in particular, was a constant refrain. The only water used on board in cooking is bottled, sterilised mineral water; fruit and vegetables are washed thoroughly in the same water. As ice is prepared from mineral water, iced drinks are safe and available at all times and a limitless supply of the bottled water is provided for passengers. Although tap water is not recommended for anything other than washing, it is assumed from an infection caught in Cairo, and thereafter everybody else was healthy even though they enjoyed iced drinks and most even braved the salads.

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## Implanting reassurance

THE suggestion on the *World in Action* programme that the use of a silicone breast implant might be associated with an increased incidence of malignant disease, has prompted the presidents of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons and the Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, both of which are based at the Royal College of Surgeons, to write a reply.

The surgeons say there is no scientific evidence that breast implants might increase the risk of breast cancer, or affect the body's immune defence system. They are adamant that there has been no recorded case in Britain of serious disease occurring as a result of a silicone implant, even though they have been used for 25 years for breast augmentation and reconstruction.

"AMI is a rather dubious disorder which has been artificially created," Professor Levy says. "They have taken a population at one end of the normal spectrum for memory and defined them as a separate category."

Glaxo is frank about its reasons for doing this. Asked why the company was examining ondansetron in AMI rather than in Alzheimer's disease, Dr Paul Williams said, on *Horizon*: "It affects very many more people in the UK than Alzheimer's."

The upshot is that for people who are merely ordinarily forgetful, compared with others of the same age, cognitive enhancers are unlikely to have any effect beyond that of a placebo. But for those whose memory is abnormally poor — rare in the young, more common in the old — there is now the prospect of real help, soon.

Surgeons agree that mammography is difficult after an implant but experienced radiologists can still assess breast tissue. Lumps in the breasts can still be felt by hand.

No cases in Britain of breast cancer been shown to be caused by implants. In California a study of 3,000 women who have had the operation showed no increase in breast cancer, even though there was some, statistically insignificant, increase in various diseases, including malignancies..



An implant: uplifting news

## Healthy leadership prospect

NEIL Kinnock's speech at the Labour conference has been acclaimed but hitherto opinion polls have suggested his style suffers by comparison with his colleagues, particularly John Smith, the shadow chancellor. However, no discussion about Mr Smith is complete without mention of his coronary thrombosis in 1983.

In fact, the outlook for people with coronary arterial disease is nowhere near as bad as is supposed. In its mildest form, angina without having had an actual coronary, and with a normal resting ECG (heart tracing) and blood pressure, the annual mortality is now more than 1.4 per cent. If the patient has a high blood pressure, this figure rises to 7.5 per cent, and 8.4 per cent if the resting ECG is abnormal. If the patient is both hypertensive and the ECG is abnormal at rest, the annual mortality rate is 12 per cent.

Prognosis after the initial stages of a coronary thrombosis is good but is dependent on the amount of damage done. Mr Smith had immediate treatment with "clot-busters" and the damage to his heart muscle should be very limited. He is known to be active and take care of his health, and so far as is known, has no signs or symptoms of heart failure or angina. He should have a good prognosis. Even those patients who have needed a coronary bypass do well. Three out of five are trouble-free ten years later.

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# Sweet and sour fict-food

Gillian Tindall feels queasy about a good cook of grotesque with poignant, stark with farcical

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a novel by Anne Tyler is a subject for rejoicing. Compulsively readable, realistic, funny, touching, apparently honest, her sagas of lower-middle America have a flavour that even readers at many removes from this world find irresistible. Yet this very term gives pause for thought: isn't there something a little odd about a novelist of whom eminent reviewers have written variously (italics theirs) "I love her", "she is wickedly good", "pen dipped on one page in acid and on the next in orange liqueur", and "strewn with the banana peels of love"? This is not so much appreciation as drooling.

and the foodie metaphors provide their own clue. Anne Tyler's work is indeed like some rich publum in the avocado whip or chocolate range and, like all such easy-to-consume ambrosias, it palls. The first one of her novels that I read, the brilliantly named *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant*, acted on me just as if the title and the novel were one. "Try our gizzard soup" says one of the waitresses in that book. "It's really hot and garlicky and made with love." So did that novel seem. Yet three books farther on I find qualms setting in, a moral queasiness.

This is not to say that the new novel, *Saint Maybe*, shuns any falling off from its predecessors. It is almost quintessential Tyler. Here is another family living in a battered frame house in a provin-

cial city. Here are the couple finally at odds with each other, the eccentric, loveless single male pursuing an obsession, the messy, loving mother, the neglectful one, the plain woman who gets her man, a wise child or two, and the usual supporting cast of losers and screwballs who might have escaped from another book altogether. It is, however, this mixture of the grotesque with the poignant, the farcical with the stark, that constitutes Tyler's claim to integrity.

For me, she is at her best in

portraying niggling time that forces at work beyond the Americanspeak of choice and decisiveness and this-is-the-woman-who-has-changed-my-life. Two separate men, brothers, use that phrase in their abrupt marriages are the least convincing parts of the novel, mere plot mechanisms compared with the moment when a flooded sewing box is dragged out of a neglected cupboard: "Everything had the dead brown stink of overcooked broccoli. It was amazing how thorough the rust was. It threaded the books and eyes, it studded the needles and straight pins..." Emotional rust has settled on Ian, the novel's central character, and another version of the vulnerable man hijacked by events that we have in *The Accidental Tourist* and in the proprietor of the Homesick Restaurant. This maybe saintly figure starts out as a regular high school boy, but is transformed by guilt over his brother's death into

the family linchpin, and parent-substitute to his orphaned step-nieces and nephews. The eventual rescue into love is performed by an intolerable boscat with long black hair who has managed to get the house sorted out (literally) and the rust removed.

I don't object to the central improbability of the step-children being family-less and identity-less.

It is part of American mythology

that anyone can become anything, and, by the same token, drop out of

their previous existence; we find this assumption in the lost grandchild of Tyler's previous novel, *Breathing Lessons*. Nor — again looking at American norms — do I query the idea that Ian's self-sacrificing choice might have been imposed by a fundamentalist religious belief. But what does stick in my throat is that the author, instead of allowing her central character the dignity of a faith commensurate with his intelligence and his human qualities, shows him poleaxed by a

wretched little backstreet sect, the property of one man who takes reparation for sin to a literal extreme and believes sugar to be over-stimulating. (The final re-cantation of this belief, in one of Tyler's vintage hilarious scenes, does not seem an adequate counter-weight to Ian's diminished life.)

Some people do lead lives distorted by false beliefs or by the perjury of others; crippling diseases do occur, and so do senseless suicides. But to pack all these so

easily into a novel to make the story work is not so much true-to-life as gratuitous, and the callousness of this is not leavened, merely veiled, by the funnier scenes. This author is attached to sudden and apparently improbable love matches for her characters, but such arbitrary rewards can end up seeming not even sentimental but heartless. This novel is, like all its predecessors, full of the flavour of individual lives, intimate and lingering, but written with love it is not.

IT IS, astonishingly, 35 years since we first met Tom Ripley. He has not changed much. He's older, of course (though not by 35 years), and settled down with the vivacious Héloïse, but still as handsome, erudite, sophisticated and charming; and just as amoral.

He is not so much the lovable rogue of crime fiction as the admirable psychopath, unbound with feelings of guilt or remorse. *Ripley Under Water* is his fifth appearance, and it helps to have read a couple of others: references to past crimes and characters are frequent and not always fully explained.

Nothing much happens, or perhaps a lot happens. Tom and Héloïse are living quietly and elegantly in their French country house near Fontainebleau. An American couple, the Pritchards, take a place nearby. They appear, at first, merely irritating and over-friendly. Soon it becomes clear that Ripley is the reason for their presence in the village. They know disturbingly much about his past. They openly accuse him of a killing

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## CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

# In Dublin's fair city, where soul sounds so gritty

Geoff Brown on Alan Parker's *The Commitments*, *Let Him Have It*, *I, The Worst of All*, *Julia Has Two Lovers* and *Galahad of Everest*

**T**he other week, in *Stepping Out*, Liza Minnelli's tap dancing class was putting on a show in Buffalo, New York. Now, in *The Commitments* (15, Odeon Marble Arch), the spotlight falls on a 12-strong Dublin rabble — raw, lusty, disputatious, and with a mission to give soul music an Irish accent. They call themselves "The Commitments" — thus the title of the film, which is a rip-roaring, upbeat, hilarious affair from director Alan Parker.

Since *Fame* 11 years ago, Parker has become so passionate an explorer of American culture that it seemed this Islington lad was never coming home. He remains the expatriate, but Roddy Doyle's novel at least takes him over the Atlantic to an unlovely Dublin of concrete, weeds, wrecked cars and clambering urchins. Parker's usual cameraman, Michael Seresin, could make a desirable residence from the most ravaged slum; his new camera eye, Gale Tattersall, avoids all gentrification. Parker also leaves star names behind; instead, he cast local musicians and coaxed (or bullied) the latent actor out of them.

They are wonderfully good company. Sharp-faced Robert Arkins is the manager, Jimmy, trying to cootain his hot-headed band of tootlers, thumpers, pounders, strummers and three-humxum lassies (the back-up warblers). Johnny Murphy, an established stage actor, brings a special twinkle to trumpet player Joey, the group's spiritual guru who spins travellers' tales of Elvis. But the music-making is dominated by Deco, lead singer and big-head. Looking much older than his 16 years, Andrew Strong commands the stage and yells out lyrics with demonic force.

If any band member is Parker's alter ego, it must be this combative, truculent figure. Yet the Parker battering-ram is rarely visible. Scenes tumble over each other friskily, and the script's sociological asides ("The Irish are the blacks of Europe") fit naturally alongside the sparkly humour of Doyle's novel — neatly adapted by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais.

*The Commitments* lacks only one useful ingredient: a pool of

quiet. Buoyed by his sympathy for these youngsters striving to carve something from nothing, Parker indulges their music and brawls more than is dramatically advisable. You start the film foot-tapping; you end it somewhat fatigued. In between, though, Parker brings off his most likable achievement in years.

British crime films once meant dull corpses fished from the Thames or jewel thieves and men from the Yard in hot pursuit at 30 mph. But that was before *Dance With a Stranger* dug up the file on

**'Buoyed by his sympathy for these youngsters striving to carve something from nothing, Parker indulges their music more than is advisable'**

Ruth Ellis, the last woman in Britain to be hanged, or *The Krays* delved into the psychological make-up of Ronnie and Reggie, malevolent East End gangsters. *Let Him Have It* (18, Odeon Leicester Square) exhausts more history: the notorious Craig-Bentley case of 1952, where a 19-year-old epileptic was executed for a policeman's murder, though his 16-year-old victim (too young for the noose) did the killing.

Peter Medak, director of *The Krays*, takes command again for this powerful drama, though the style is very different. For all the overhead shots and the night scenes' Gothic gloom, this is a film with its feet on the ground, content to explore these luckless boys' lives through accretion of realistic detail.

Christopher Craig, the younger of the two, is the catalyst: a cocky would-be hoodlum in the wilds of Croydon, still with a schoolboy's

squeak of a voice. Derek Bentley is the one who tags along, slow-witted, desperate for Craig's approval, dwarfed by an outsize blue jacket, his hair transixed in a Marcel wave. Christopher Eccleston, in a fine cinema debut, portrays him as a tragic lost soul.

Bentley's fate becomes sealed when he yells "Let him have it" as Craig brandishes a gun before a man in blue during an attempted warehouse robbery one cold Sunday night. Plug him with bullets, or surrender your gun: the phrase could mean both, though to judge and jury only the first was possible.

Medak can overdo the period props — in every street scene, five quaint buses seem to putter by. But his grip is sure where it matters most: with the characters. In an unsettling portrayal, Paul Reynolds makes Craig appear both lethal and ridiculous; while Tom Courtenay does marvellous things as Bentley's quiet-mannered father. Behind them stand Britain's army of character actors, pressed into service as wavers, attorneys and judges. Sombre and moving, *Let Him Have It* is that comparative rarity: a mainstream British film that still gives audiences something to chew on.

Now to *Julia Has Two Lovers* (15, Cinemas Tottenham Court Road, Cheltenham, Screen on the Hill), which introduces Basah Shbib, a Canadian film-maker now resident in Los Angeles. Shbib shoots semi-improvised shoestring comedies in the time some of us take to iron a load of wash: since this first emerged last summer, he has already finished four more.

Though very much a trifle, *Julia* still proves one of his stronger efforts. Toying with marriage to her drab lover in Los Angeles, Julia takes a marathon phonecall from a stranger. They talk while shaving, bathing, chopping fruit; they talk about orgasms and other intimacies. Love blossoms, though the petals start falling once Julia discovers him pitching telephone woo to another susceptible lonely heart. Relationships in a technological age; the female predicament: Shbib's material, based on a story by his lead actress Daphne Kastner, glows with promise.

Eventually the glow fades, partly because Kastner and David Duchovny — both veterans of Henry Jaglom films — cope fitfully with improvisation. Sometimes the dialogue rolls merrily off the tongue; but you can tell Kastner is fondering when she responds to any argument by shouting a repeat of her previous line. Mercifully short, and most economically made (for locations: Shbib used his and Kastner's apartments), *Julia Has Two Lovers* is a feather-duster film: easy to pick up, easy to put down.

By contrast, *Maria Luisa Berg* (Argentina) film I, *The Worst of All* (15, Electric) is a finely polished jewel: every setting elegantly lit with an eye to the burnished clarity of Spanish 17th century painting; each word precisely placed, each scene pitched at a stately tread. This might sound like 90 minutes in a funeral

parlour, but the absorbing story and central performance easily prevent the ice of extreme artifice forming.

**B**erg only entered the film business at the age of 50, after cutting herself free from her husband and children. The feminist commitment remains: her current heroine is the 17th century Mexican poet, Sister Juana Inés de la Cruz, renowned for her brilliance, beauty and bad relations with a Church fast succumbing to galloping intolerance. "Intelligence has no sex," she tells the convent children; but she is soothed by her new Archishop, agast at the notion of a thinking female.

Assumpta Serna brings this contradictory woman to marvellous life, capturing all her gaiety, exuberance, piety and pride. Dominique Sanda shares some of her best scenes as the Vice-Reine who offers protection and love. The stylised settings of theatre designer Voytek — grills, shadows, white wimples, grey stone, a lapping sea of bright blue polythene — provide their own pleasures. This is eloquent, exquisitely film-making.

*Galahad of Everest* (PG, Odeon Mezzanine) offers boozing actor Brian Blessed clambering up Everest in the guise of pioneer explorer George Mallory (lost on the peak in 1924). This BBC documentary has its moments ("It's hell. I never envisaged this. It's just hell," Blessed cries), but firmly belongs on a television screen. Wait a few months, and it will arrive.

Leading article, page 17

## TELEVISION

## Screening the stars for a modern classic

The BBC's new Saturday night drama series has been devised by Simon Curtis, better known as a Royal Court Theatre director. Anna Kythreotis met him

**L**es Dawson is not a name that springs immediately to mind in connection with serious drama. Yet, improbably, the lugubrious comedian finds himself in the company of Ian Holm, Judi Dench, John Malkovich, Miranda Richardson and a formidable ensemble of distinguished players in BBC 2's new *Performance* series — five studio-based, modern classic plays in television adaptations.

For all its undoubted merit, studio drama is in danger of sinking under its own leaden weight. "The well-made Sunday night play has gone out of fashion and, if some have their way, it would be finished completely," says executive producer Simon Curtis.

"But historically, the BBC has always done this work very well and it is important not to leave it behind." He sees the modest viewing figures as the effect rather than the cause of the decline.

"I think a lot of them became rather uninspired and, equally, there were plays that didn't really deserve to be done. There's no point in doing *The Rivals*, say, just because it hasn't been done in a while. There has to be a real reason to justify doing it."

Curtis makes a strong case for his own, inevitably idiosyncratic, choices, which begin this Saturday: Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* adapted by David Mamet, "which gives it a completely new edge"; a screenplay version of Pinter's *Old Times*, "with scenes that have never been included before in any production"; the first major revival of Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls* (in co-

**'It is work that stands or falls on the quality of material and the performers'**

people will switch off," he says with disapproval. "We're saying 'Pay attention and you'll get brilliant acting and great writing as your reward.' At 90 minutes, the plays are shorter than equivalent theatre productions, "except for the Chekhov which is just over two hours — but if you're going to spend two hours in the company of a writer it might as well be Chekhov."

The uncompromising theatrical intention of the production is emphasised by Curtis's dual role as producer of the series and director of two of the plays. He is a son of the Royal Court, committed advocate of new writing, and has been described by *The International Herald Tribune*



Judi Dench in Rodney Ackland's "forgotten 20th century masterpiece", *Absolute Hell*

as "the best young director of his generation". This, however, is the first time he has worked with television. "Alan Yentob [Controller, BBC 2] wanted someone who was part of the theatre community in an attempt to make this kind of work vital and alive again."

A no-nonsense 30-year-old south Londoner, Curtis discovered and became obsessed with theatre at the age of 15. "What was amazing was that I discovered the Royal Court so quickly and that my taste was defined so early on. It was the world of new writing that I really identified with."

He made a precocious professional debut, directing *Pollakoff's Hitting Town* in Los Angeles, before starting his second year at Bristol University where he read English — "having failed to get into the drama department," he adds pointedly. Within hours of his finale, he began work at the Royal Court, becoming deputy director four years later. He has

also worked at the Liverpool Playhouse, the National Theatre and in New York.

"I grew up at the Royal Court and it will always be my home. It is a long time to spend in one theatre. I felt I owed it to myself and the Court to branch out. A lot of the writers I'm interested in are writing for television rather than theatre. I want to go back and forth. I've been warned that I might find it very hard to go back to

I'm familiar with the struggle of making quality work fit an inadequate budget."

Nevertheless, he discovered that even though the costs of one programme would have kept both theatres at the Royal Court functioning happily for over a year, it was still not quite enough to make one good television play. He then took the initiative of introducing transatlantic elements into the scheme, and found American co-production money, largely from a television channel there. "I'm a great believer in American writers, actors and directors, so it's no hardship collaborating with them."

**B**eyond confirming that they share a common interest in this kind of work, Curtis won't discuss his meeting with Steven Spielberg. Asked if it was in connection with the next series of *Performance*, Curtis replies with an enigmatic "It may or may not be."

Quite how the BBC godfathers have responded to his bold *modus operandi*, Curtis isn't telling, though some sources suggest that they were not entirely happy. However, if *Performance* pulls in the viewing figures its quality deserves the BBC mandarins may yet find themselves joining Curtis, who admits to dancing jubilantly when he has filled the Theatre Upstairs, in a spirited mazurka.

• *Absolute Hell*, the first play in the *Performance* series, is on BBC 2 at 9.30pm on Saturday.



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## ARTS REVIEWS

Benedict Nightingale assesses the latest play at the Barbican; plus Alice Cooper at Wembley Arena Page 20

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## BRIEFING

### Brickman quits

MARK Brickman, artistic director of the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, has resigned after only a year in office following a management decision to change his artistic programme. Faced with a potential deficit of £250,000, the board of the repertory theatre asked Brickman to abandon his forthcoming productions of *Hedda Gabler* and *The Front Page* in favour of what chairman John Cornwell calls "quality productions that would be financially viable".

Brickman refused to consider alternate programming, believing "there is little point in having a subsidised theatre which does not put on challenging work." New plans for the Crucible's current season have not yet been announced. Declining box-office receipts are blamed partly on the competition from the recently re-opened Lyceum nearby.

### Song 'n' dance

LONDON Contemporary Dance Theatre has been engaged by the Royal Opera to provide the dance element in its Wembley Arena production of Puccini's *Turandot*, which opens on December 29. LCDT, which is contributing 20 dancers to the stadium production, will be working with the choreographer Kate Flatt. It is the first time LCDT has collaborated with an opera company.

### Last chance...



Astounding critics: actress Fiona Shaw

PERHAPS the performance is a little unvarying in its intensity, and perhaps it is difficult to see the nuances of character beneath the terminal anguish. But the sheer daring of Fiona Shaw's *Hedda Gabler* left most critics breathless — and the public hammering on the doors of the Playhouse (071-839 4401), where Deborah Warner's revival of Ibsen's play ends its all-too-short season on Saturday.

### Driver's reprisal

A woman who has been down and out for a long time has found her way back to the stage, and it was in her first role as a mother in a play that she has been charged with the title of the year's best actress.

### st chance 2 o'clock

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### Driver's reprisal

A woman who has been down and out for a long time has found her way back to the stage, and it was

## Happiness at an end

Peter Barnard reflects on the ifs and butts of an ad campaign

**A**t about 11.40 last night a man walked into a bar and, seeing an attractive girl, went to spruce himself up. He washed his hands, then splashed water over his trousers. He washed his face but got soap in his eyes. Thus blinded, he put a foot in a bucket. Thus soothed, he skidded through the washroom door and came to rest at the girl's feet. Thus stranded, he reached to pull himself up by the bar at the very moment the barman lifted the counter. Thus defeated, the man lit a small cigar and drifted off... into television history.

Happiness was a cigar called Hamlet. Just before midnight, the last Hamlet commercial, a taste of hope from a tale of woe, disappeared in several puffs of smoke, the victim of a right-minded, right-on modern lobby against tobacco, or the victim of interfering Brussels bureaucrats who presume to know what is bad for us. Take your pick.

The single-theme Hamlet campaign has run for 27 years, almost as long as *Coronation Street*. John Ritchie, who was and remains the account director at Collett, Dickson, Pearce, the agency that handles Gallaher, swears that what sounds like a Hamlet ad script is actually true. "Two of our creative people were having a hard time coming up with a slogan. One night, soaking wet after standing at a bus stop, they got on the bus only to find they had no cigarettes. They hummed one off a chap in the next seat and after taking a drag one of them said to the other, 'Happiness is a dry cigarette on a number 34 bus.'"

This back of a bus ticket idea has launched Patrick Cargill as a persecuted music teacher, Keith Michel as King Canute, Ronnie Corbett sinking in the Boat Race and, for last year's World Cup, a player felled by a free kick that hit him in the testicles. All human life is here, to the accompaniment of a Jacques Loussier arrangement of Bach's *Air on a G String*.

No wonder people say the ads are the best thing on television. To further the simplistic notion that a smoke relieves stress, the ad industry has produced some of television's wittiest moments. Alcohol and tobacco may be the twin *bêtes noires* of 1990s healthspoke, but selling them has inspired genuine creativity. The Hamlet commercial in which a man is trying to watch a tennis match in a neck brace, unable to move his head while all about are moving theirs, is a brilliant piece of lateral thinking.

**W**ill the ban on commercials stop people smoking? Since the Hamlet ad was launched in 1964, the market for small cigars has moved this way and that but it has never been far off 1.5 million cigars a year. The point of the campaign is that it has given Hamlet 50 per cent of the market.

The question of whether this market would have shrunk without the advertising is from the realms of the remark by the first Lord Leverhulme to the effect that he knew half of his advertising budget was wasted, but he knew not which half. In advertising, empirical evidence is usually a contradiction in terms.

Advertising people are kicking themselves over the disappearance of tobacco commercials. Their demise originates in the European Community Trans-Frontier Broadcasting Directive, a title not even Bach and Lousier could place on every lip. "This is lunatic interference," says Ritchie, "but Brussels speaks with one voice and the industry doesn't, or it didn't do so soon enough. We should have seen this coming earlier."

To borrow from the other Hamlet: the rest is silence.

## Jekyll the patriot, Hyde the nationalist

Conor Cruise O'Brien says xenophobia is not new and cannot be wished away

**L**ast week Boris Pankin, the Soviet foreign minister, addressing the general assembly of the United Nations, denounced what he called the virus of nationalism: "Nationalism is becoming the main feeding ground of terrorism. The mortar attack on Downing Street, the villainous assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the bloodshed in Nagorno-Karabakh and elsewhere are the convincing evidence of that."

It is not surprising that a foreign minister of the Soviet Union should be contemplating nationalism with distaste. It is a force which has already very nearly destroyed the supranational entity he represents. And Mr Pankin in no way overstates the destructive potential of nationalism, which not only feeds terrorism, but has been the driving force of two world wars and scores of minor ones. But there is no point in scolding nationalism, or even depreciating it, as Mr Bush did in his own address to the general assembly last week.

Mr Bush is a strong American nationalist, though he does not see himself that way. Americans, like the English, tend to consider nationalism something rather

disreputable to which foreigners are unfortunately prone. From this perspective, nationalism is a bad thing and should never be confused with patriotism, a good thing and characteristic of oneself and the better element among one's fellow countrymen. In reality, nationalism and patriotism are two ways of referring to the same elemental force. They are as inseparable as Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

Today Mr Hyde is on the rampage in the Soviet Union, as well as in Yugoslavia, and it is natural that Mr Pankin should concentrate on the destructive aspects of nationalism. But Dr Jekyll is also present. Nationalism does not only tear people and things apart, it also holds them together. Without the cement of American nationalism (alias patriotism), sedulously inculcated into each generation of immigrants, the fabric of American society would dissolve. The resulting chaos of interregional and interethnic conflict would be worse than anything Yugoslavia can show today.

It has yet to be demonstrated that human beings can live together in large numbers without the conserving and integrating force of nationalism. So we have to live with nationalism, and try to control its destructive potential. Within each nation, we should discourage xenophobia. In particular, we must be alert to manifestations of anti-Semitism, the great danger signal, which means Mr Hyde is stirring.

**H**e is stirring now in France and, even more disastrously, throughout the United Germany, where increasing support for neo-Nazis is reported, especially among the young. British anti-Semitism has always been milder than the continental kind, and any revival of it is consequently more difficult to detect. But here too there are a few disturbing signs.

At the international level one can hope to manage nationalism through the creation and development of supranational ideologies and institutions. Marxism, which supplied one set of these,

has now gone down in comprehensive ruin. The United Nations was never intended to have a supranational role, at least not in relation to any of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

The question of the hour is whether the European Community is to acquire a supranational political role. Advocates of what Chancellor Kohl has called "the United States of Europe" point to the chaos engulfing Yugoslavia and parts of the Soviet Union to demonstrate the urgency of making the EC a fully supranational polity. But the reasoning is not clear. The simultaneous collapse of two supranational polities does not obviously demonstrate the need to create a third. True, the third would be radically different from the first two, since it would be a voluntary association based on democratic choice. That great difference should never be dismissed. Yet the difference does not necessarily imply that a supranational community with the power to override national parliaments would better contain

the destructive potential of nationalism. There are good grounds for believing that it might have the opposite effect and stimulate xenophobia.

When members of a nation begin to feel they are being pushed around by foreigners, Mr Hyde is likely to be heard from. And the experience of being ruled from Brussels might well have that effect, not only in Britain but in other countries. The supranational experiment might end in the destruction of the Community's proven institutions and reopen old nationalist conflicts.

For these reasons, I believe John Major's European strategy and tactics are basically right. Like Mrs Thatcher's, his strategy is the defence of national sovereignty, but his tactics are widely different from hers. She shattered European caravans with the excruciating strains of an aroused English nationalism. Mr Major speaks softly, and in a manner which reminds other European countries that they too have national sovereignty and national feelings to consider. They do, which is why I believe Mr Major, and not the militant Eurocrats, will succeed.

## A dreaming spire for London

**C**ome, let us annoy Sir Godfrey Taylor. He has done me no harm, and indeed I had never knowingly heard of him until an hour ago, but he is thwarting, or at least attempting to thwart, an idea so splendid and imaginative that nothing must be allowed to stand in its way. Sir Godfrey is standing in its way, so we must all annoy him till he desists.

I am a graduate of the London School of Economics, where I sat at the feet of such luminaries as Harold Laski, Maurice Ginsberg, Lionel Robbins, Michael Oakeshott, K.B. Smelser and my hero, Karl Popper; from these, I learned practically everything of value that I know.

In 1974, however, I had a nasty shock: I realised that by a few months I was older than the newly installed director of the LSE, Ralf Dahrendorf, and when a man finds that he is older than the head of the institution in which he got his principal education, he is likely to look in the mirror and fumble for razors.

(Robert Conquest had a much nastier shock of the same kind; he realised, when J.F. Kennedy won the 1960 election, that the president of the United States was actually younger than he was, though by only a few weeks. I have always believed that Bob, not Lee Harvey Osswald, shot him.)

Imagine, then, the horror with which I realised that when I went up to the LSE as a first-year undergraduate, the present director, Professor John Ashworth, was eight years old.

I'll be shooting him, I can tell you, but not before he has brought to fruition the magnificent idea I mentioned when I started. For he wants to take over County Hall, together with its satellites, the Island Block and the North and South Blocks, and house the LSE in it.

The LSE has been hopelessly cramped since I was a student there. It has expanded to its limit by buying up bits and pieces of surrounding buildings, but it will soon burst, and the work it does



The South Bank would make a fine home for the LSE, urges Bernard Levin

suffers from the inadequacy of the premises; the Library of the Social Sciences, the jewel in the college's crown (it has two million works in its stacks, more than any such specialist collection anywhere) will soon need more room, too.

County Hall is empty; when the GLC was abolished, and Ken Livingstone was dethrown (do you remember when he and his gang gave – and for a peppercorn rent – the Festival Hall's entire 50,000 square feet of open space to Brezhnev, to mount a monstrous exhibition of lies and evil?) County Hall lost its *raison d'être*.

For a time it was squated in by a residue of those who, in the Livingstone days, had strolled the corridors, monarchs of all they surveyed, but the law turfed them out, and now there is no one in it, unless the ghost of Herbert Morrison patrols the place at night.

The abolition of the GLC posed problems; it owned County Hall, as had the LCC before it, but if the GLC was dead, whom could County Hall be left in its will? A new organisation was hastily invented, called the London Residuary Body, and County Hall was put into its hands, along with the South Bank halls. (And do you remember when Livingstone and his cronies instituted tests for political correctness among those wishing to perform in the Festival Hall?)

Which is where Sir Godfrey Taylor comes in. He is chairman of the London Residuary Body, and he is deeply hostile to the idea of bringing the LSE across the river. And that is why we have to annoy him.

He first looked kindly on a project which would have turned County Hall partly into a huge hotel and partly into a block of flats. But it is singularly unfitted for either of these proposed metamorphoses, and in any case the entrepreneurs who proposed the scheme could not come up with the money. Whence young Johnny Ashworth and his vision of the LSE, with students strolling along the curved corridor, each of them equipped if not with forty acres and a cow, at least a desk, and even a chair.

I have the detailed scheme – very detailed indeed – for an LSE across the Rubicon, and I must say that I have never seen a proposal for action so metrically, lucidly and comprehensively drawn up; every time, when reading through it, I said to myself "Ah, but..." I only had to turn the page to find that my objection had been considered and even answered.

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LAMY

The Lord your God is in your midst, a warrior who will keep you safe. He will be with you and be glad: he will show you his love once more.

Zephaniah 3:17 REB

## BIRTHS

ADLEY - On September 30th 1991, to Linda and Grant, a daughter, Sophie, 7lb 8oz.

BOYD - On October 1st 1991, to Noreen and Oisín, a son, Nick, 7lb 11oz and Emily.

DAVISON - On September 20th 1991, Vanessa (née Lins) and Richard, a daughter, Harriet Lucy, a sister for Edward.

DOVE - On October 2nd, to Martin and Glyn, a daughter, Anna Elizabeth.

FITCH - On September 30th, at Worcester Royal Infirmary, to Joyce and David, and Barnaby (box), a daughter for Sophie May.

GALBRAITH - On October 1st to Quenna (née Braithwaite) and Norman, a son, James (John James), a brother for Jason and Anthe.

GAYNER - On September 29th, at Princess Mary's Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, to Lesley (née Hill) and Alan, a daughter, Harriet Rose, a sister for Sophie May.

GRANT - On September 30th, to Shirley, Elizabeth (née Hart), a son, Alastair, a daughter, Emma Margaret, a sister for Sarah.

KING - On September 29th, to Katherine (née Michael) and Robin, the gift of a son, Michael William Henry.

MARTIN - On September 28th, to Michael and Humera, Hospital Wellington, to Denise and Karen, a son, Alan Christopher.

ROBINS - On September 29th, to Barry and Linda, a daughter, Laura.

MITCHELL - On September 25th, to Ruth and Andrew, a lovely daughter, Nicola, a sister for Lisa.

MITCHENER - On September 25th, to Mary (née Carr) and Simon, a son, Henry Peter.

NYROPSEN - On September 26th, to Laura (née Nicklas) and Joanne, a sister for Oliver and Valdemar.

ROBARD - On September 30th, to Fiona (née Stavler) and Alex, a daughter, Katty Anna Rosemary.

ROBINS - On September 19th 1991, to Emily and Phillip, a son, Benedict John Percival.

ROBB - On September 30th, to Jane and Nicholas, a daughter, Sandra, a sister and Anastasia.

ROBISON - On September 30th, to Hilary (née Nixon) and David, a daughter, Captain Lucy Anne, a sister for Sophie.

SMITH - On October 1st, to Beverley (née Aunger) and Guy, a son, Daniel Robert.

SPELMAN - On September 30th, to Maria Anne and Anthony, a son, Mark Edward.

STATHMORE AND KINGHORNE - On Tuesday October 1st 1991, to Robert, wife of the Earl of Stathmore and Kinghorne, a son.

VELLACOTT - On September 30th, to Bridget (née Miller) and Jonathan, a son, Jack Alexander, a brother for Sophie.

**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES**

HARNARD-REES - On October 2nd 1941, to Celia Bowie (née Betty), Present address: 267 Nether Street, Finchley, London N5 1PD. Happy Birthday Bowie.

## DEATHS

ATKINSON - On October 2nd 1991, before his time, in a brave fight. Cllr. Lovings wife to Keith and beloved mother of Ian, Cremation service 3.30pm, at the Chapel of Randal Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey. Family only. Services: 10.30am at St Lawrence, Dorking. Kent at 3pm on October 4th. Arrangements to be made by Mrs. C. Lovings. Private family funeral service. A Memorial Service will follow.

MCMILLAN - On September 25th 1991, at Pinchfield House, Sevenoaks. Robert Gordon Macleod, aged 86 years. The last surviving son of Archibald McMillan Shipwrights of Dunbarton. Service at Tunderidge, Walls Crematorium on Friday October 11th at 11.30 am.

MEADE-WALDO-VAN - On October 1st, Susan, widow of John Meade-Waldo-Van and his wife, Dorothy, beloved wife of Sase. Dear, loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Service at 2.30pm at St. John's Church, Greenwich, London, 11th. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to the Home Farm Trust, 100 Gloucester Road, Cheltenham. Goring-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. Edward YD Hospital c/o J. Edward YD Hospital, 2227177. No flowers, if desired to King Edward YD Hospital c/o J. Edward YD Hospital, 2227177.

BOYES - On September 23rd, suddenly on holiday in Italy, Florence (Elise Giselle), a daughter, Debbie, a son, James (John James), a brother for Jason and Anthe.

CARLILL - On October 1st 1991, peacefully in hospital, St George's Nursing Home, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire. Nellie (née Vass), mother of Peter and Michael and grandmother of Christopher, Clifton, Imogen and Angus. Rest in peace.

CHAMBERS - On September 24th 1991, at Miford Hospital, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire. Nellie (née Vass), mother of Peter and Michael and grandmother of Christopher, Clifton, Imogen and Angus. Rest in peace.

CHAMBERS - On September 24th 1991, to Shirley, Elizabeth (née Hart), a son, Alastair, a daughter, Emma Margaret, a sister for Sarah.

COLE - On October 1st, to Michael and Linda, a son, William Thomas Coghlan.

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## NEW RELEASES

DEAKIN PARTS 1 AND 2 (PG): First two parts of the second round of a new cycle of modern morality inspired by the Ten Commandments. Essential viewing.

Randal (071-637 8402).

JACOB'S LADDER (B): A Vietnam vet (Tim Robbins) is trapped in demon visions and dreams, fraught, over-fanciful thriller from the writer of *Ghost* and director Adrien Lyne.484 5070. *Carrie's Return* (071-370 2636)

Shaftesbury Avenue (071-631 6661).

MEETING VENUS (18): Backstage drama while stage手表演 in Park, actually observed, but lacking punch. Starring Natascha, Glenn Close, directed by Steven Soderbergh, produced by David Puttnam.

Carrie's Return (071-370 2636)

Shaftesbury Avenue (071-631 6661).

THE OBJECT OF BEAUTY (15): Michael Douglas-Hogg's comic tale about a woman who falls in a shaggy London hotel. Visually thin, but refreshingly performed (WHD John Malkovich, Andie MacDowell).

Curzon West End (071-439 4005)

Screen on the Park (071-439 3382).

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Michael Douglas-Hogg's comic tale

about a woman who falls in a shaggy

London hotel. Visually thin, but refreshingly

performed (WHD John Malkovich, Andie

MacDowell).

Curzon West End (071-439 4005)

Screen on the Park (071-439 3382).

A RAGE IN HARLEM (18): Bullyboy

about a woman who falls in a shaggy

London hotel. Visually thin, but refreshingly

performed (WHD John Malkovich, Andie

MacDowell).

Curzon West End (071-439 4005)

Screen on the Park (071-439 3382).

RHAPSODY IN AUGUST (U):

Kurosawa's master drama about coming

to terms with the divine. Rhythms

of poetry among the trees. Richard Gere

juts briefly.

Curzon Mayfair (071-439 8869).

UNDER SUSPICION (18): Liam

Neeson as a private eye implicated

in murder with a femme fatale (Lorraine

Elke Winkens).

AT OUR TABLE: Odd Daniel Mornin

play that quantity defines to name its

subject: killing men in Nazi Germany.

Cocktail (071-639 2252). Tom Stoppard,

7.30pm, Sat, and tomorrow, 2.30pm.

BOLD GIRLS: Inside Stanton and

a line company in Roma Munro's

perspective look at women's lives in

West Belfast.

Harrow, Swiss Cottage Centre,

NHS (071-722 2021). Maribel, 8pm,

Sat, 4pm, 100mtrs, now extended

to run until October 13.

DANCING AT LIMNHAGA: New

east takes over in Brian Friel's Oliver

memory-play set in 1930s Donegal.

Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2

(071-637 1044). Mon-Fri, 8pm, mat.

Thurs, 8pm, Sat, 8pm, 10pm.

DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER:

Cafe in vintage, French

boudoir from Apollo,

Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-

484 5070). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm,

mat, Wed, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm.

HEDDA GABLER: Fiona Shaw

outstanding as her spirited, doomed

heroine in powerful Dublin Abbey

Theatre production. Frat, week.

Playhouse, Northgate Street, WC2

(071-637 2132). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat,

5.45pm and 8.30pm, 12.30pm.

HIPPYDOTTES: Muriel Stappman

in otherwise wacky playfulness

about sexual desires.

Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359

4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Sat, 4pm,

100mtrs.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING

TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT: Jason

Donovan's a golden wig for this

broad, breezy, breezy.

Playhouse, Coventry Street, WC1

(071-630 8800). 2pm.

KATHLEEN: Muriel Stappman

in otherwise wacky playfulness

about sexual desires.

Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359

4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Sat, 4pm,

100mtrs.

NOOK-NOOK: Fiona Shaw

as a young, aggressive

woman of cold-handsy manif.

(she's an idiot), one person said.

"You get these

nooks, off their heads on ecstasy, crazy

in front of the lights, wearing the wrong sort

of clothes. It's a great big sweaty hanger full

of people who don't know each other."

SWEVEN:

A dream or vision, from the Old

English refers a dream or sleep: "Merry

Mother she stoopef from Heaven/She wakened Earl Harold

out of his sweven."

SURAL:

(B) Of or pertaining to the calf of the leg, from the Latin

Latin, and a calf: "The case of a ballerina, in which the sural muscles were affected."

CROLI:

(A) A short, short-sleeved blouse, often worn

under a sari by Indian women, from the Hindi

calf, from the Sanskrit, but probably of Dravidian

origin: "Her sari was pale green, and under it the

child was almost transparent."

## WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 22

NOOK-NOOK

(c) Denotes a place for a young, aggressive

woman of cold-handsy manif.

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## ENTERTAINMENTS

## ART GALLERIES

PARK LANE ANTIQUES FAIR,

W1 2.7 Oct 1991 071 439

6321

THE MECHI GALLERIES,

101 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1

17.10-20.10.91 Sat, 11am-6pm

Sun 11am-5pm

Tues 10am-5pm

Wed 10am-5pm

Thurs 10am-5pm

Fri 10am-5pm

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Fri 10am-5pm

Sat 10am-5pm

6.00 Ceefax  
6.30 Breakfast News beginning with *Business Breakfast* until 6.55 when Laurie Mayer and Fiona Foster present news and topical traffic bulletins  
8.05 Perfect Strangers, American comedy series  
9.30 Labour Party Conference. The fourth day's proceedings presented live by Donald MacCormick, Vivian White and Ian Smith. This morning the party debated its proposed "quality revolution" and how it will affect health, the environment and transport  
10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25 The Family Nest. Cartoon adventures of a family of aquatic monsters (r)  
10.35 Labour Party Conference. Further live coverage from Brighton. Includes news and weather at 10.00 and 11.00. 12.55 Regional news and weather  
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather  
1.30 Neighbours (r) 1.50 Four Square. General knowledge knock out quiz, presented by John Sache (s)  
2.15 Film: *Some Girls Do* (1969) starring Richard Johnson, Daliah Lavi and Maurice Denham. Dim spy agent with Johnson as secret agent Hugh Drummond, doing battle with an army of female robots programmed to sabotage the testing of Britain's first supersonics jet. Directed by Ralph Thomas  
3.45 Bridging Sydney Harbour. A pictorial history of the building of Sydney harbour bridge  
3.50 Spider. Animated adventures of a young boy and his inverent archidach (s) 4.00 Brum. Cartoon adventures of a small car housed in a motor museum 4.05 *Get Your Own Back*. Dave Benson Phillips presents the game show that offers children to turn the tables on an assortment of adults including parents, teachers, a dentist and a side instructor (s) 4.20 *The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse* (r)



Comedy: Paul Jones confronts the Loch Nock monster (4.35pm)

4.35 Uncle Jack and the Loch Nock Monster. The first of a new series of adventures about an ancient green activist, played by Paul Jones. (Cartoon) (s) 5.05 Newstart 5.10 Blue Peter. Yvette Fielding, John Leslie and Diane-Louise Jordan celebrate the cartoon character Fred Flintstone's 30th birthday, investigate world animal day and meet two Sumo wrestlers. (Ceefax) (s)  
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s)  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Alan Ford and Alan Harvey. Weather 6.30 Regional News magazine  
7.00 Top of the Pops. The 1443rd edition of the chart-running series which began in the 1960s sees a comprehensive revamp to take in the American charts and tracks from the top ten album charts, as well as more live performances and fewer promotional videos. All this and new opening titles and a new signature tune. (Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 1) (a)  
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9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather  
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11.00 Capital News. Strong drama series set in the offices of a Washington newspaper, this week involving an investigation into the activities of a black community leader. Starring Lloyd Bridges  
11.45 Weather

**GRANADA**  
ANGLIA As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Blockbusters 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight 7.30-8.00 BBC 1 8.30-9.00 BBC 2 9.30-10.00 BBC 1 10.05-11.00 BBC 1 11.30-12.00 BBC 1 12.45-1.00 Short, Story Theatre

**BORDER** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 Lookaround Thursday 7.30-8.00 Blockbusters 6.30-7.00 BBC 1 8.30-9.00 BBC 2 9.30-10.00 BBC 1 10.05-11.00 BBC 1 11.30-12.00 BBC 1 12.45-1.00 Short, Story Theatre

**HTV WEST** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40-11.10 The West This Week

**HTV WALES** As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six

**SCOTTISH** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7.00 Scottish Frontiers 11.10 Prisoner; Cell Block H 12.05 Medicine 11.10 Prisoner; Cell Block H 12.05 Rugby World Cup 91 1.05 Film: *Gold* 3.20 America's Top Ten 3.30 Britain's Top Ten 3.30 Film: *Malcolm X* (s)

**TSW** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Take the High Road 8.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40 Money is the Route of 10.45 Merited... with Children 11.10 The Equalizer 12.05 Rugby World Cup 91 1.05 Film: *Gold* 3.20 America's Top Ten 3.30 Videoisation 4.20 Film: *The Case of the Velvet Claws* 5.25-5.30 Jobfinder

**CENTRAL** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 6.00 Lookaround Thursday 7.30-8.00 Blockbusters 6.30-7.00 BBC 1 8.30-9.00 BBC 2 9.30-10.00 BBC 1 10.05-11.00 BBC 1 11.30-12.00 BBC 1 12.45-1.00 Short, Story Theatre

**GRAMPIAN** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 North Tonight 7.30-8.00 Blockbusters 6.30-7.00 BBC 1 8.30-9.00 BBC 2 9.30-10.00 BBC 1 10.05-11.00 BBC 1 11.30-12.00 BBC 1 12.45-1.00 Short, Story Theatre

**TSW** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Take the High Road 8.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40 Money is the Route of 10.45 Merited... with Children 11.10 The Equalizer 12.05 Rugby World Cup 91 1.05 Film: *Gold* 3.20 America's Top Ten 3.30 Videoisation 4.20 Film: *The Case of the Velvet Claws* 5.25-5.30 Jobfinder

**YORKSHIRE** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 8.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40-11.10 The World 12.10 Film: *Macho California* 2.00 Profile 2.30 America's Top Ten 9.00 Cinema 3.30 Music Box 4.30-5.30 Jobfinder

**ULSTER** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.00-8.00 Counterpoint 10.45

**TYNE TEES** As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Film: *Police at Work* 10.40 Merited... with Children 11.10 Prisoner; Cell Block H 12.05 Rugby World Cup 91 1.05 Film: *Gold* 3.20 America's Top Ten 3.30 Film: *Malcolm X* (s)

**PUTTING POLAND TO RIGHTS** Sir John Harvey-Jones (9.30pm)

**9.30 Troubleshooter in Eastern Europe.**

© CHOICE: Working through his wardrobe of bright ties, Sir John Harvey-Jones travels east to give his long-awaited assessment of the economies struggling to make the transition from communism to the free market. Tonight's programme finds our hero in Poland for a characteristic display of genial guffaws and blunt speaking.

Visiting a glass factory with its technology stuck in the middle, he tells the boss that the only way forward is to shut much of it down, tonight if possible. Emerging from a session with the company accountant, Sir John observes: "That was a good old load of Polish bullshit!" Even President Lech Wałęsa is not spared the courtesy of his sharp tongue. As in his British *Troubleshooter* programmes, Sir John is very high on entertainment value, though you feel that the difficulties of the Polish economy are too complex to be sorted out in a flying visit and a few tough lectures

**10.30 Newlight**

**11.15 The American Late Show.** In this first of a new monthly strand of *The Late Show* presented by Peter Krutch from the United States, director Spike Lee talks about the trouble he encountered making his film *Malcolm X* (s)

**11.55 Weather**

**12.00 Open University: Getting Our Act Together.** Ends at 12.30am

**1.00 News**

**1.30 Comedy: Paul Jones confronts the Loch Nock monster.** (4.35pm)

**2.15 Film: *Some Girls Do* (1969)**

**3.45 Bridging Sydney Harbour.**

**4.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk.** (Ceefax) Regional news and weather

**4.30 Uncle Jack and the Loch Nock Monster.** The first of a new series of adventures about an ancient green activist, played by Paul Jones. (Cartoon) (s)

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## Apple and IBM unveil joint deals

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

IBM and Apple Computer have announced a series of joint agreements for the development of new software and hardware technology which the companies, previously arch rivals, claim will revolutionise the personal computer industry.

The five agreements mark the formal start of close cooperation between Apple and IBM following their declaration of intent to make the move three months ago.

The deal will enhance Apple's chances of moving more successfully into the corporate market for personal computers and will increase the user-friendliness of IBM machines. It will eventually mean that companies using large IBM computers will be able to use Apple's advanced Macintosh computers as desktop workstations. The move is a serious challenge to Microsoft, which dominates the personal computer software market.

In July, IBM announced a

sharp fall in net earnings before tax, and though Apple's launch last year of low-cost Macintoshes has boosted its volume, profits overall have become tighter.

The five initiatives announced yesterday include:

- New licensing to allow better networking between Apple and IBM computers.
- Apple will adopt IBM's reduced instruction set computing (Risc) microprocessor chips for use in future Macintoshes. Supplied by Motorola, these are likely to be available in 2-3 years.

The company operates booths in more than 100 countries and has more than 70 per cent of the UK market. Yesterday it reported a £200,000 rise in pre-tax profits to £17.1 million for the year to end-April. A 3p (2.8p) final dividend makes a total payout of 4.2p for the year, a 5 per cent increase. The company said that it intends to "maintain at least this level of dividend next year".



Snapping up the market: Dan David (left), president of Photo Me, and David Miller, managing director

## Deal talks at Time Warner confirmed

By PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK

TIME Warner, the world's largest entertainment company, has confirmed that it is in talks with Toshiba and C.Itoh, the Japanese firms, which may invest \$1 billion in the debt-laden creator of Bugs Bunny and publisher of *Time* magazine.

All three sides stressed last night that a definitive deal was still some way off, although Steven Ross, the Time Warner chairman, has promised a big deal by the end of the year and other executives have said talks could be completed within weeks.

Sources close to the negotiations say Toshiba, the electronics group, and C.Itoh, the trading group, would take a stake in a newly created Time Warner offshoot, which would include its cable and pay per view television and film businesses.

Time Warner shares dropped sharply this year amid a controversial rights issue. The shares firmed a fraction above \$34 each by lunchtime on Wall Street yesterday, but have traded at \$125 this year.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Shares in Reg Vardy rise on £12.9m issue

REG Vardy, the Northeast-based multi-franchise motor dealer, is raising £12.9 million through a placing and open offer of 11.1 million new shares at 120p. Shareholders will be offered one new share for every three held. Reg Vardy shares responded with a healthy 19p advance to 148p.

In August, Reg Vardy, which operates a total of 12 franchises in 19 locations, announced its appointment as Nissan dealers by the new Nissan (GB) distribution network.

Reg Vardy will use the proceeds from the issue for acquisitions, including additional Nissan dealerships, and to re-develop its Renault and Sunderland used car operations, without adding to its bank borrowings. Peter Vardy, the chairman, and his family interests will not take up their entitlement to new shares, but will be left with a 52.1 per cent interest in the group's enlarged share capital.

### Lamont falls to £3.92m

LAMONT Holdings, the Belfast textiles, computer and engineering group, is maintaining its interim dividend at 3.5p in spite of a 21 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £3.92 million in the six months to end-June. Turnover, climbed from £52.4 million to £56.1 million while earnings per share slipped to 11.21p, down from 13.79p last time.

Time Warner shares

### Anglo rejects Scottish bid

ANGLO-Scandinavian Investment Trust has formally rejected last week's £18 million hostile bid from Scottish Cities Investment Trust. Anglo is also considering winding itself up to make a higher cash offer to shareholders. Scottish is offering cash worth 82 per cent of the trust's asset value, which is 102p a share, or 90 per cent of asset value in shares.

### Global demerger plan

GLOBAL Group, the USM-listed holding company, is planning to demerge its food interests as a separate quoted business. Global said that a demerger was in the best interests of shareholders as the food division needed to be "totally focused" to carry out its expansion plans.

The food division contributed £500,000 (£486,000) of operating profits during the six months to end June. The shipping services division saw profits slide to £806,000 (£926,000), while the property division contributed zero profits (£1.5 million). Group pre-tax profits fell by 63 per cent to £959,000. The company said the profit for the year is likely to be below that for 1990. No property income is expected in 1991. There is a 0.2p interim dividend (nil).

### Advertising firms merge

TWO French advertising agencies have decided to merge, creating the largest advertising group in Europe and the sixth largest in the world. Eurocom and RSCG will merge into Euro RSCG with a turnover, on present calculations, of Fr43 billion. The companies said yesterday that they planned to make two-thirds of profits outside France.

### Melville cuts final payout

MELVILLE Group, the exhibition contractor, has cut its final dividend to 1.6p (3.6p), making a reduced total of 3.2p (5.2p) for the year to end-March. Pre-tax profits plunged to £1.13 million (£1.62 million) as turnover declined to £85.6 million (£112 million). Earnings per share slid to 4.81p (13.26p). Gearing at 96 per cent is likely to stay high this year.

### BNFL at odds with Scottish

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH Nuclear's plans to store waste from atomic power stations on site have been attacked by British Nuclear Fuels, the state-owned nuclear fuel and waste processing business.

In its annual report, out yesterday, BNFL claims its "best information" — based on work in Sweden — is that the costs of storage and eventual direct disposal of irradiated fuel would be comparable with reprocessing.

Scottish Nuclear has refused to sign a reprocessing contract, worth hundreds of millions of pounds, with BNFL. The state-owned electricity generating company believes it can cut costs with dry storage of spent fuel.

In the year to end-March, BNFL declared a pre-tax profit of £156 million, up £11 million, on slightly reduced sales of £1.04 billion.

### Official reserves up \$10m

By ANATOLE KALETSKY  
ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITAIN'S reserves of gold and foreign currencies rose by an underlying \$10 million in September. Contributions of \$100 million by other countries to the cost of the Gulf war contributed to the rise, which was broadly in line with City expectations.

Some analysts said the figures pointed to minor intervention in the currency markets by the Bank of England to support sterling, but others disputed this. The overall level of official reserves dropped \$98 million to \$44.6 billion.

In America, sales of new, single-family homes rose by 6.7 per cent in August to a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 540,000 units, well above Wall Street's expectations of about 455,000. August's sales level was the highest for more than a year.

### COMPANY BRIEFS

IPCO HOLDINGS (Int)  
Pre-tax: £1.79m (£1.85m)  
EPS: 4.14p (4.53p)  
Div: 1.2p (1.2p)

Turnover slipped to £8.71m (£9.2m). Ipcos has net cash of about £3.8m and prospects in both short and long-term are encouraging.

BOSTROM (Int)  
Pre-tax: £736,000  
EPS: 3.8p (10p)  
Div: 2.5p (2.5p)

Last time's profit was £1.79m. Earnings figure shows no tax charge. Actual tax charge gives earnings of 4.9p (19p).

EW FACT (Int)  
Pre-tax: £570,000  
EPS: 5.15p (5.05p)  
Div: 1.21p (1.1p)

Last time's profit was £434,000. Turnover grew to £24.3m (£22.2m). Extraordinary charges of £135,000.

REA HOLDINGS (Int)  
Pre-tax: £225,000  
EPS: 0.5p (2.0p)  
Div: Nil

Last time's profit was £406,000. The board intends to recommend a single dividend, of not less than 4p per share, for 1991.

TOYE & CO (Fin)  
Pre-tax: £373,000  
EPS: 10.6p (10.5p)  
Div: Nil (nil)

Last time's profit was £371,000. Sales £6.77m (£6.3m). Budgeted sales and anticipated profits may not be fully achieved for year.

### FTSE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '900	Vol '900	Vol '900
Abbey Nat	2,429	1,543	1,421
Ady-Jones	1,228	823	1,778
Anglo	1,228	1,276	1,222
ASDA	7,935	603	1,453
AB Foods	367	570	1,465
Argit	367	570	1,465
AVP Wdg	2,480	2,947	273
B&M	519	404	5,000
BET	612	1,195	3,110
BTR	1,933	5,968	3,976
BAT	1,783	844	4,191
BAT	1,783	844	4,191
Barclays	2,565	2,063	2,205
BBC	707	2,063	193
SK Scotland	1,780	2,063	2,007
Blue Circle	404	1,610	1,760
BOC	383	1,610	1,760
Boots	2,159	401	1,760
Bord	707	771	350
Br Adams	1,855	8,943	1,070
Br Gas	1,728	1,704	1,085
Br Petrol	5,006	960	1,778
Br Steel	2,583	1,614	1,760
Br Telecom	2,612	2,543	1,760
CBW	2,013	4,046	1,760
Cadbury	1,543	1,421	1,760
Courtaulds	603	1,276	1,760
Europcar	570	570	1,760
Europcar	570	570	1,760
Europcar	570	570	1,760
Forts	2,947	2,946	1,760
Gen Acc	1,195	1,195	1,760
Gen West	3,976	3,976	1,760
N W Water	1,884	1,884	1,760
Nim Foods	416	416	1,760
P&G	2,205	2,205	1,760
Pilkington	193	193	1,760
PowerGen	2,460	2,460	1,760
Prudential	5,110	5,110	1,760
Rans	210	210	1,760
Reed	771	771	1,760
Redland	350	350	1,760
Reed	1,070	1,070	1,760
Rentokil	12	12	1,760
United Bisc	1,760	1,760	1,760
Vodafone	3,021	3,021	1,760
ITC	157	157	1,760
Woolworths	1,760	1,760	1,760
P-Royce	8,100	8,100	1,760
Rothmans 'B' 560	1,760	1,760	1,760

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**Girobank**  
BUSINESS BANKING

**T**he vultures are not yet circling British Aerospace, the wounded giant of British manufacturing excellence. The flutter of wings detected in the City over the past couple of days is, however, a reminder that plenty of would-be booe-pickers are poised to take off on a reconnaissance flight should the opportunity arise.

After a brief recovery on the change of chairman last week, BAE shares had relapsed to 410p, uncomfortably close to the rights issue price of 380p, until lifted by a little bout of speculation yesterday. Kleinwort Benson has provisionally sub-underwritten the issue, but institutions are naturally anxious not to be left with it, assuming the unenterprising capital raising is duly authorised at the group's extraordinary meeting on Monday.

The vultures would surely scent blood if the issue flopped, leaving BAE with plenty of short-term cash and a group of involuntary shareholders. Sir Graham Day, the interim chairman, and Dick Evans, his chief executive, will be in evangelical mood on Monday to

make sure that does not happen by expounding the group's strategy and stressing the cost savings from the cash-eating restructuring programme. Some pieces of the future jigsaw will, however, be missing. The new permanent executive chairman BAE needs to recruit to bolster management is still only a white space in the organisation chart. Some of the names mentioned would certainly not be an improvement on Sir Graham, who has ruled himself out.

BAE also looks undercapitalised in the long-term to fulfil its present strategy, even with the £430 million rights issue money, which is mainly needed to finance restructuring. As a defence contractor with bits added on, it has been able to operate on negative working capital thanks to advance payments.

BAE built up debt to help its necessary expansion into non-defence industries, but these will

require a bigger capital base to develop even in joint ventures like the strengthened car deal between Rover and Honda. For a group facing such changes, gearing of only a third looks excessive as a starting point by the standards of GEC or the big German groups.

No wonder the men with the gold pens are working out a possible break-up on the backs of envelopes. Break-up is, however, not what BAE needs. Joint ventures may be sensible and a solution is required to the regional airliner problem. But BAE's structure makes sense and it would be folly to sell the pieces from a position of weakness.

A full bid from a hostile source would, in any case, send shock waves through the defence and financial establishment. Merger with GEC would be similarly

anathema. The defence ministry would only contemplate a foreign merger which would leave competition undiminished but cause political ructions. BAE should be developed rather than destroyed, but that will need more capital and more management.

In addition, the discount houses look decidedly small against their competition in the international capital markets, the world's largest commercial banks. Each day they have to pit their skill against the banks' financial might.

All of which suggests that the future of the discount business may be limited. The discount houses themselves have realised this in the last few years and have used their resources to diversify into new areas, with varying success. Some moves, like Cater Allen's expansion into the Lloyd's insurance market, have paid off. Others like Union

Discount's acquisition of Sabre Leasing, have proved to be unmitigated disasters.

According to business school theory, companies in mature industries should take two actions. One is to diversify, which most of the houses have done. The other is to consolidate or merge, to reduce costs and combine capital resources to speed up the diversification.

Some smaller houses are under pressure to be recapitalised or closed. There have also been suggestions in the City, strenuously denied, that two of the City's largest discount houses have held preliminary talks about a merger.

A merger between leading players in the sector would make eminent sense. The resulting firm would have a dominant position in the market and could reduce costs. The biggest potential barrier is the Bank of England, which would have to approve any deal. But the Bank's reservations could be overcome if it saw a stronger player emerging and the two discount houses chose a suitable chief executive to lead the new outfit.

## COMMENT

# Edgy days for Aerospace

## Japanese greet financial firms' 'born again' claims with derision

After a year of business scandals, efforts are being made to clean up tarnished images, Joanna Pitman reports from Tokyo



SEC-type watchdog would 'not fit well': Ryutaro Hashimoto, the finance minister

WHEN full page announcements appeared in Japan's national daily newspapers this week, advertising the spruced-up business philosophy of the "Born Again" Nomura Securities, it was met with snorts of derision from a jaded public. The Japanese are already saturated with more than a year's worth of virtually meaningless apologies for misdemeanours from the figureheads of the nation's most powerful financial institutions.

Yesterday's notice is a sure sign that the supply of fresh securities and banking scandals is drying up though little is being done to prevent them happening again.

The leading banks and securities firms at the centre of the summer's almost US\$6 billion worth of scandals, want to show the public they have cleaned up their act, punished offenders, instilled new ethics in their workers and now have a clean bill of health.

The Japanese believe they have heard all this before. In the past year, they have witnessed an astonishing succession of senior banking and securities executives' denials of misconduct, followed by admissions, pleas for forgiveness and tearful resignations intended to plug the leak of sordid affairs once and for all.

Rotten revelations began to seep out last October when Ichiro Isoda resigned as chairman of Sumitomo Bank, ostensibly to take responsibility for the alleged criminal acts of a branch manager, but as it later turned out, to avoid responsibility for the bank's support of a shady speculative property company that reportedly worked in league with Japan's gangster underworld. On 10 February, Mr Isoda, who had been reinstated as a director, resigned again, with two other directors, to "lift company morale" and tell the world amends had been made.

There followed the now celebrated investment loss

compensation scandal, in which more than 20 securities houses illicitly paid compensation worth over US\$1.3 billion to 274 clients to reimburse losses or guarantee profits made from stock and bond market investments. As this unfolded, it emerged that Nomura Securities and Nikko Securities had been dealing with well known gangster bosses, and Nomura was also accused of ramping share prices on behalf of one of its gangster clients.

News of dirty securities dealings had barely settled before more bank scandals began to hit the headlines. On July 25, Fuji Bank, Japan's fourth largest, admitted that three Tokyo branches had run a scam involving the issuance of forged deposit certificates to be used as collateral. Claiming it knew nothing of the forgeries, the bank insisted this was an isolated incident involving individual employees, thereby exposing either incredibly sloppy management or a remarkable economy with the truth.

Japan then learnt that too

only had finance minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's secretary been instrumental in helping Fuji Bank in its illegal scheme, but that two other leading banks, Tokai and Kyowa Saitama, had been doing the same. Then, Industrial Bank of Japan, the nation's most august financial

over. Within a year, Japan has convincingly demonstrated that the world's largest single source of capital and one of the world's top financial centres is riddled with vice.

More serious, Japanese transgressions have been shown to be systemic, deeply ingrained in the fabric of the nation's financial markets, its political system and business practices.

Only with the help of a finance ministry (MoF) as industry policeman, can the dirt be eradicated.

On current form, this does not look likely. In other financial centres, such misdemeanours would probably be dealt with through an open legal procedure.

institution, admitted it had been lending billions of yen to the female mystic and operator of a mahjong parlour, suspected of being a powerful gangster's moll. The scale of Japan's most recent assorted financial shenanigans leaves the BCCI scandal in the shade. Minor revelations continue to trickle out, but the bulk of the fireworks now appears to be

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## APB wants reports to say who does what

## Auditors attempt to close the public expectations gap

ACCOUNTANTS are so worried about the public's respect for company auditors that they are planning to spell out in the annual report contained in every company's accounts that the auditor's imprimatur means very little. As Mr Hashimoto has said, an independent SEC-type industry watchdog would "not fit well" with the Japanese market.

There has been scarce evidence of a desire to revise the archaic odd-and-wink business philosophy. As Mr Hashimoto has said, an independent SEC-type industry watchdog would "not fit well" with the Japanese market.

In the past year, ten figureheads of well known financial institutions have resigned in grand Kabuki drama fashion; two of them twice. All have been seamlessly replaced. Meanwhile, 11 junior employees of banking institutions have been arrested and hauled away as scapegoats.

Embarrassed senior financiers have been publicly slapping their own wrists. Some gave up their summer bonuses, others took a 10 per cent pay cut for three months.

The Big Four brokers, Nomura, Daiwa, Nikko and Yamaichi, were asked to refrain from soliciting business for four days and fined a paltry Y5 million (£21,000 each).

Much扇fare has accompanied the government's decision to exclude the Big Four from underwriting publicly offered prefectoral and municipal bonds during October. The business will go to second tier brokers, however, many of which are, in fact, controlled by the Big Four.

Financial institutions have been advised to refrain from doing business with "anti-social organisations" (gangsters), but to do so is still perfectly legal. Brokers have also been asked out to manipulate share prices, although the practice is widely acknowledged and has long been tolerated by the MoF. Mr Hashimoto effectively sanctioned future share ramping this week when he told the Diet that Nomura's alleged stock manipulation would be too hard to prove.

The only legislative development has been to make the payment of stock loss compensation illegal. The securities industry is delighted to have had this expensive burden removed for good.

The past year's array of scandals has revealed one indisputable truth about business ethics in Japan: they do not exist. But as long as the MoF continues to rule with a deliberately ambiguous hand, it will get the bankers and brokers it deserves.

evening trying to find a casual department, while the runners who finished the race found the gates locked and had to climb the fence.

**Dying art**

THEIR is an intense game of pass the parcel going at Singer & Friedlander — or pass the painting to be more precise. The merchant bank has just acquired a work by Guy Noble, the winner of its annual watercolour competition. Titled 'The Suicide', it depicts a well-dressed City type hurling himself from a building on the Embankment — a gruesome reminder of what can happen when market turn the wrong way. "The trouble is nobody wants the painting in their office," laments Tooy Solomons, the chairman, and a keen water colour enthusiast. He is adamant that the bank will find a home for it — but probably well away from its more sensitive clients and employees.

CAROL LEONARD

consultation paper says. "A second example is assuming that auditors provide absolute assurance that the figures in the financial statements are correct."

Not much is left. Those who have had their expectations properly reduced to near zero might have some awkward thoughts. If the auditors' report tells so little, perhaps the system needs shaking up to provide what is needed.

The APB is working on this other end of the expectations gap. Further papers will discuss how auditors might draw attention to crucial points in the accounts that might affect the judgment of creditors or investors. How should they respond to accounts that do not give a true and fair view or comply with standards now enforced through machinery set up by the Financial Reporting Council?

The future lies in auditors of public companies having more responsibilities, and being better paid to give a better service. Some leading accounting firms are now thinking in this direction. But some of the biggest too often see auditing as a loss leader to obtain more lucrative advisory work. Relationships between auditors and management need to change. Reducing expectations too far will stifle reforms that should enhance the auditor's role.

GRAHAM SEARJANT  
Financial Editor

## STOCK MARKET

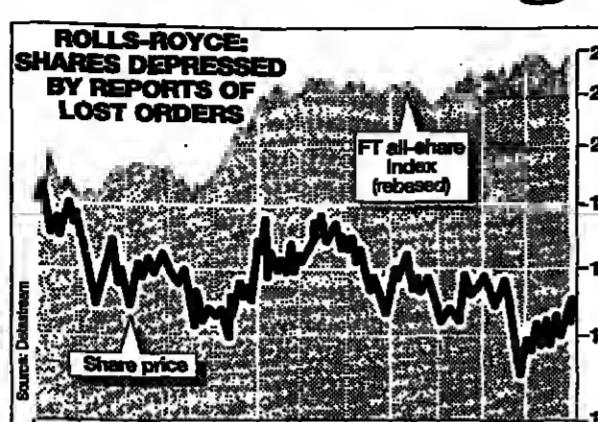
## Rise in Asda price fuels speculation of stake-building

THERE was further heavy turnover in Asda, the troubled supermarket chain, fuelling speculation that someone is building up a stake. Another 7.5 million shares were traded, as the price rallied 3½p to 50p. Despite the price being halved in the past few weeks and the poor reception for the group's £350 million rights issue at 35p a share, Asda is still regarded as a takeover target.

Dealers believe that an overseas food retailer may have attempted to build up a sizeable holding via the underwriting for the rights issue. Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house, has been a big buyer of Asda, leading to claims that Atlantic & Pacific, the American supermarket chain, was looking to bid. A&P lost to Isosceles in the battle for Gateway but still holds a 7 per cent stake. Metro, the German retailer, has also been mentioned as a suitor for Asda.

Meanwhile, investors paused for breath after the strong start to the account. The FT-SE 100 index fluctuated in narrow limits before ending 1.4 points lower at 2,644.2. Dealers said that the outlook for the market remained firm and this was reflected in turnover, with 548 million shares traded. Government securities firmed by 5½ at the longer end, still optimistic about an imminent cut in interest rates.

Royal Insurance, down 2p at 363p, is expected to open lower today after Standard & Poor's announced that it had



placed the group's claims-paying ability rating on Creditwatch because of recent heavy operating losses. British Telecom rose 8½p to 421½p as the government's bandwagon for the £5 billion sale continued.

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223p, Midlands, 5p to 221p,

North West, 5p to 388p, Severn Trent, 11p to 350p, Thames, 5p to 389p, Welsh, 5p to 378p, and Yorkshire, 5p to

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421p.

British Aerospace enjoyed an early mark-up on a report that the group may soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid from a consortium, which would include GEC. After touching 435p, the price eventually settled at 415p, a rise on the day of 5p and 35p above the rights issue price.

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine manufacturer, fell 6½p to 144p on reports that it had lost another two valuable contracts for its new Trent engine.

All Nippon Airways has decided to power its fleet of new-generation Boeing 777 aircraft with engines supplied by the rival Pratt & Whitney. Meanwhile, American Airlines has postponed an order for Boeing 777 aircraft. Rolls-Royce had been hoping to win the contract for the engines.

Does someone know something about the television franchises, due to be announced this month, that the rest of the City does not? The directors of TSW may be forgiven for thinking so after Fidelity Life unloaded 400,000 shares. The line was snapped up by a buyer at the 79p level. TSW finished 1p easier at 83p. Ratners, the jeweller, dropped 11p to 104p after Moody's downgraded its credit rating.

MICHAEL CLARK

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## Bluebird swoops into red

BLUEBIRD Toys, maker of The Big Red Fun Bus, announced today that its results for the six months to end-June as the recession took hold. The group made a pre-tax loss of £4.47 million compared with profits of £35.5 million.

Turnover fell 30 per cent from £16.7 million to £11.6 million and the operating loss was £50,000 compared with a profit of £1.32 million. A rise in the interest charge from £982,000 to £1.08 million and an exceptional charge of £3.34 million for reorganisation costs led to the heavy pre-tax loss. The loss per share was 46.1p compared with earnings of 2.5p. There is again no interim dividend.

Torquie Norman, chairman of Bluebird, whose brands include Plasticine, said that in 1992 the group would benefit from lower overheads, improved cash flow and lower finance charges, and more efficient use of production capacity along with reduced depreciation charges.

The shares, quoted on the USM, were unchanged at 35p.

### Headline sale

County NatWest Ventures Investments has disposed of all its 840,690 shares in Headline Book Publishing, which came to the market in April at 100p. The holding represented 7.6 per cent of Headline, and the shares were placed by County NatWest Worldwide with institutions, at 132p. Headline shares were unchanged at 138p.

The proceeds of the £202 million rights issue have boosted the bank's core capital ratio to 6.5 per cent, more than 50 per cent above the Bank of England's minimum. This gives the bank leeway to expand its loan book by more than £100 million.

This firepower is directed south of Hadrian's Wall. Bruce Patullo is determined to capture a greater share of the mortgage market through intermediaries, and corporate lending, through its electronic banking services.

Expansion has allowed the Bank of Scotland to escape the debilitating effects of cutbacks. The bank is planning only 300 job cuts, and no compulsory redundancies. Despite this, it promises to bring its cost-to-income ratio below 50 per cent in three years.

### Guinness bond

Guinness, the drinks group, has launched a Can\$150 million (£76 million) eurobond to refinance the \$40 million acquisition of Schenley Canada last year and to reduce short-term borrowings. The seven-year bond carries a coupon of 9½ per cent and was arranged by Credit Suisse First Boston.

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engine manufacturer, fell 6½p to 144p on reports that it had lost another two valuable contracts for its new Trent engine.

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ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				CARE-CURE	MYERS	UNIT	TRUST	EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				INVESTMENT				INCOME				DE ACO					
Abb Hldg Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00	Managers LTD	Stew Peth, Chichester, Gloucester GL53 7LQ	1st Floor, 25 Portland Street, Manchester M2 4AF Tel: 0161 291 57655	1st Floor, 25 Portland Street, Manchester M2 4AF Tel: 0161 291 57655	UK Growth	48.78	48.98	+0.14	3.08	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	151.11	+0.52	0.25		
Masterl Acc	92.08	94.05	+1.97	2.00	UK Growth	55.00	55.00	-0.01	1.48	Assessors	54.67	55.71	+0.13	3.22	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
Instl Div	82.45	87.49	+5.04	1.50	Capita	134.3	142.7	+0.2	4.08	Assessors	54.67	55.71	+0.13	3.22	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
Div/Govt	52.93	57.73	+4.80	5.36	Convertible	23.50	24.78	+0.1	0.01	Managed	78.06	77.82	+0.19	3.22	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
Global Govt Sec	53.18	56.45	+3.27	1.77	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Report Card	67.92	71.01	+0.14	2.77	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
Global	54.56	56.13	+1.53	2.66	F East	147.01	149.00	+0.19	5.65	Report Card	67.92	71.01	+0.14	2.77	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
High Inc Equity	140.7	142.00	+0.2	5.65	F East	121.1	123.7	+0.2	6.71	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
W/Wide Bond	11.71	22.17	+0.2	0.71	F East	147.01	149.00	+0.19	5.65	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
Govt/Fixed	17.70	13.43	+0.1	0.36	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
ASTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				10. Chesse Terres, Aberdeen AB9 1CU Tel: 0241 303070 dealing (Frasers) 0800 533380	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
ASTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				50. Chesse Terres, Aberdeen AB9 1CU Tel: 0241 303070 dealing (Frasers) 0800 533380	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
ASTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				50. Chesse Terres, Aberdeen AB9 1CU Tel: 0241 303070 dealing (Frasers) 0800 533380	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
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ASTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				50. Chesse Terres, Aberdeen AB9 1CU Tel: 0241 303070 dealing (Frasers) 0800 533380	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	Ex Fund	100.00	100.00	-0.01	0.01	INCOME	220.15	224.14	+1.5	473	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	1.04	De Aco	146.3	150.20	-0.3	0.25
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## **UNLISTED SECURITIES**

## **MONEY MARKETS**

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 91.2 (day's range 91.2-

**STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD**

	Range	Closes	1
dem.	3,2807-3,2893	3,2814-3,2850	
is.	59,86-60,15	59,90-60,11	
ogen.	11,2288-11,2810	11,2288-11,2478	1
art.	1,0811-1,0823	1,0811-1,0821	
	2,9108-2,9172	2,9118-2,9158	
	249,17-250,55	249,17-250,10	5
	183,75-184,77	183,94-184,57	2
	2173,98-2182,42	2175,51-2180,86	
al.	1,9785-1,9841	1,9785-1,9824	0,34
xt.	1,7495-1,7535	1,7610-1,7520	0,78
	11,3797-11,4198	11,3797-11,4038	
	8,0192-8,4547	8,6224-8,6366	
dm	10,6026-10,6518	10,6541-10,6576	
	231,78-232,86	232,18-232,48	1
	20,46-20,52	20,46-20,48	2
	2,5420-2,5463	2,5425-2,5467	
Exch		Premium	
<b>MONEY RATES (%)</b>			
Base: Clearing Banks 10% Finance Hos 11			
Int Market Lows: O/night high: 11% Low 10%			
Bills (30d)Buy: 2 mth 9% = 3 mth 9% = Set: 2 mth 9%			
	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth
Bank Bills (30d):	10% - 10% =	10% - 10	9% - 9% =
Money Rates:	10% - 10% =	10% - 10%	10% - 10%
etc	10% - 10% =	10% - 10%	10% - 10%
night open 10%, close 11%.			
Authority Dps:	10% =	10% =	10% =
CDC:	10% - 10% =	10% - 10% =	10% - 10% =
De:	5,40-5,35	5,40-5,35	5,53-5,48
Society CDC:	10% - 10% =	10% - 10%	10% - 10% =
<b>EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)</b>			
	7 day	1 mth	3 mth
	5% - 4% =	5% - 5%	5% - 5%
market:	5% - 5%	5% - 5%	5% - 5%

# COMMODITIES

## COMMODITIES

SUGAR (PDS)		LONDON OIL REPORT	
C Cane/Beet		Crude levels edged particularly gasoline.	
Dec	183.6 BBD	Brent Physical	CRUDE
Mar	189.4-193.0	Brent 15 day (Oct)	
May	187.5-188.5	Brent 15 day (Nov)	
Aug	191.8-195.8	W Texas Intermediate	
Oct	195.5-194.8	W Texas Intermediate	
Dec	ung		
	Vot 362		
IN FUTURES		PRODUCTS	
Y	HIPRO SOYA	Spot CIF NW	
/9	Class 5/0	Premium Gas .15	
13.15	Oct 134.50	Gasoil EEC	
17.16	Dec 138.00	Non EEC 1H Oct	
18.95	Feb 140.50	Non EEC 1H Nov	
21.70	Apr 141.50	3.5 Fuel Oil	
ung	Jun 138.00	Naphtha	
106	Vot 25		
	Volume: 178		
ung	Close: 132.0	Oct 202.50	
125.6	127.7	Nov 204.00	
ung	143.5	Dec 205.25	
		Jan 203.50	
	London MEAT		
	FUTURES		
	Live Pig (kg)		
	Oct		
Cattle	Open: unq		
03.02	Close: 101.4	Oct 21.20	
+1.15		Nov 21.05	
22.64	Open: Nov		
+1.03	Close: 106.5		
+8.9			
04.42	Open: 105.3		
+1.56	Close: unq		
+2.8			
	Jan		
	Open: 101.5		
	Close: 101.5		
	Volume: 56		
	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		
Cash	1334.0-1336.0 3mth: 1326.0-1336.0		Revol.
	307.00-308.00	316.50-317.00	Vot:
	887.00-900.00	1016.0-1017.5	
	5552.0-5653.0	5620.0-5625.0	
	3145.5-3155.0		

WTI (KCS-LOR) - London 6.00pm	upwards on US product strength,	
<b>Crude Oil</b>		
WTI (KCS-LOR)	21.35 -0.06	
WTI (KCS-LOR)	21.30 +0.15	
WTI (Nov)	21.05 +0.15	
WTI (Dec)	22.30 +0.20	
WTI (Dec)	22.25 +0.20	
<b>Crude Oil \$/bbl \$/MT</b>		
<b>Europe (prompt delivery)</b>		
Bid: 224 (-5)	Offer: 237 (-3)	
205 (-6)	207 (+4)	
206 (-5)	208 (+3)	
209 (-3)	210 (+3)	
74 (+2)	75 (+2)	
211 (-6)	215 (+6)	
<b>PE FUTURES</b>		
<b>Gas Oil</b>		
02.25 Feb	198.75-98.00	
03.75 Mar	191.60-91.00	
05.00 Apr	183.25-85.00	
03.00	Vol: 7672	
<b>BRENT</b>		
21.35 Dec	20.90-20.95	
21.10	Vol: n/a	
<b>BRITEX</b>		
<b>Barrels Dry Cargo (\$10/pmt)</b>		
1676	Low: 1650	Close: 1668
1720	1718	1716
1721	1715	1716
1735	1725	1721
Open Interest: 2584		
Go Index: 1542 +14		
<b>WTI</b>		
<b>FOX HIGH INDEX</b>		
<b>(5pm price)</b>		
734825	Bid	Offer
47426		
201775	Oct	133.90 133.80
7790	Dec	133.80 133.80

SENIOR AUDITOR	
CHI TO ECKX	EXCELLENT
1980	1981
1981	1982
1982	1983
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2097	2098
2098	2099
2099	20100

071-481 4481

## ACCOUNTANCY &amp; FINANCE

071-481 9313  
FAX 071-782 7828from  
hand

Jefferson Smi

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FINANCE  
EXECUTIVES  
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Candidates must be graduates, aged between 22 and 25, expecting to qualify ACCA/CIMA during 1992, with a minimum of 18 months industrial experience. The Company demands good academic and work history together with strong communication and presentation skills. In return you will receive an attractive salary and benefits package, with full study support including five weeks study leave. Promotion can be assured upon exam success.

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TELEPHONE 071-721 7283 FACSIMILE 071-721 7283SENIOR AUDITOR  
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Experience of the following disciplines is essential: preparation and presentation of detailed budgets plus constructive short and long term business strategies for a profit centre. The ability to independently and skilfully project "what-if" scenarios using different system packages e.g. Realm. The ideal candidate will also have analysed securities, FX and money market derivatives profits and will have designed, set up, tested and maintained a system to provide profitability.

The appointee will be based in the Middle East.

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on 071-831 2885

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As a member of the senior management team, the appointee will provide financial advice to the Board generally, particularly concerning the implications of the economic situation in Guernsey and the UK on future fuel costs, interest rates, costs and sales.

The successful candidate will be a qualified accountant with sound working experience of a commercial organisation.

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Closing date for applications: 31 October 1991

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ACCOUNTANT

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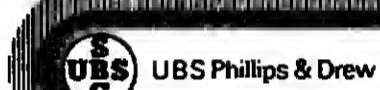
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# Energy secret that Britain gave away

More than 150 years after Sir William Grove, a Welsh judge, demonstrated the principles of fuel cells, the British government is poised to back a serious test of the technology.

Fuel cells are the catalyst in a reaction between oxygen and hydrogen to generate electricity whose main waste is water.

They can be built small enough to power cars, office blocks, factories and homes or they can be clumped together into power station-sized units for lighting towns and cities.

Fanciful claims have been made for fuel cells in the past, as with superconductivity and cold fusion. These have always founded on the grounds of cost and inefficiency leading to an official government line that the technology remains futuristic.

In collaboration with industry, however, the energy department and the trade and industry department have been quietly reviewing its potential.

Sites, such as hospitals, are being scrutinised for a demonstration scheme that might help to reverse the fortunes of Britain's fledgling fuel cell industry. The decision, however, needs to be taken with some urgency.

Several countries have already established pilot schemes for a technology that could provide environment-friendly energy into the 21st century and at the same time be highly lucrative for the nations involved. An 11-megawatt

**The government may test fuel cells 150 years after a Welshman discovered that they could meet energy demands. But our competitors are already way ahead.**

**Nick Nuttall writes**

demonstration plant, which could generate enough power for about 10,000 homes, has been started by Tokyo Electric Power in Japan, and four German companies, BMW, Siemens, Linde and MBB, the Daimler-Benz company, are pumping £25 million into a scheme near Neuenburg this year.

A one-megawatt plant is being built in Milan, northern Italy, which should come into use by the end of 1992, while The Netherlands has a small project at Delft University. The American energy department is spending nearly £30 million annually.

Such is the growing worldwide demand for fuel cells that some experts fear Britain's pilot plans may become difficult to execute.

Britain has no manufacturing base in phosphoric acid fuel cells, the only technology that appears ready for commercialisation, and

cell production from three manufacturing lines set up in Japan and the United States is over-subscribed for the foreseeable future. "We suggested to the government in 1982 that it should find out what fuel cells are all about, but this was rejected on the grounds that they were not cost-effective," says Dr Gary Acres, the director of technology and planning at the Johnson Matthey Technology Centre at Sonning Common, Berkshire.

Japan's government, in contrast, has offered 30 per cent grants for schemes in an attempt to realise them commercially.

The resurgence overseas appears to be driven by a recognition that, given incentives, fuel cells could be important in meeting global energy demands without polluting the planet.

**T**he battery-like devices have no moving parts and emissions are so low that fuel cell power stations can be sited in populated areas. An independent study by the American consultancy Arthur D. Little, for example, shows that fuel cells emit only five parts per million of nitrous oxides against 2,370 ppm for a basic internal combustion engine. Fuel cells are also flexible. The oxygen part of the fuel comes from the air and the hydrogen can come from several sources, including naphtha, methane, biomass and methanol.

Efficiencies for the phosphoric acid systems are around 80 per



Man and machine: Dr Gary Acres with an electron spectrometer used to develop fuel cells

cent, of which 40 per cent is electric and 40 per cent thermal, says Dr Marino Woo, of Fuji Electric, Japan. These systems can be used for home or district heating schemes. Such efficiencies mean that emissions of carbon dioxide, the global warming gas, are also significantly reduced, says Dr Acres, whose company is involved in developing the platinum electrodes and electro-chemistry underpinning the cells.

The ability to site the stations

near or in areas of high energy use cuts electricity distribution costs and transmission losses, says Mar-

cus Nordin, the head of the World Fuel Council, an industry-led initiative launched at the Royal Institution in London last week despite Britain's slowness in a future far from bleak if a vigorous effort is launched.

Although phosphoric acid cells will be the first to be commercialised, Britain has manufacturing expertise in other types of fuel cells. These include solid polymer and solid oxide cells, which are being developed by companies such as VSEL, formerly Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering, in collaboration with Ballard, the Canadian company.

produced and as countries introduce strict emission regulations. Dr Acres believes that despite Britain's slowness in a future far from bleak if a vigorous effort is launched.

The problem is that the cost of fuel cells is still several times more than conventional power stations.

However, the price is expected to

come down as the cells are mass-

## Bone up on vitamins

VITAMINS taken in winter may reverse some of the bone loss suffered by older women that can lead to fractures, a study published this week in *Annals of Internal Medicine* reports. In northern climates bone density declines during the winter, possibly because of reduced sunlight. The new study, at the nutrition centre at Tufts University, Massachusetts, shows the bone loss is less in women taking vitamin D supplements, and is made up during the summer.

### Long lost orchid

BOTANISTS in New Zealand who spent years searching for an orchid thought to be extinct paused for lunch and sat right on top of it, the *New Zealand Herald* reports. The orchid, *Corybas carsei*, was unharmed and 14 more were found near by. The plants flower for only two days a year.

### Super-chip

TOSHIBA will sell from next April the world's first 4-megabit EEPROM, a memory chip that retains data even after power is shut off. The chips, costing £50, can replace floppy or hard discs in computers. Because of the complex memory cell structure of EEPROMs, the largest chips now available hold only one megabit, or about a million binary units of information.

### Exercise is best

AN AMERICAN study of almost 90,000 women has found exercise is the best way to prevent diabetes, even more effective than weight loss. Researchers said they found that women who exercised vigorously at least once a week were two-thirds less likely to develop a version of the disease known as non-insulin-dependent diabetes.

### Faded star

ASTRONOMERS at Cambridge have found one of the dimmest stars ever seen, 10,000 times dimmer than the Sun. The star, known by its catalogue name BR10021-0214, is comparatively close but is so dim that it is visible only with large telescopes.

Golfers' fears of Ruling

Watson re...  
Ryder Cup

MATTHEW MAY

## Hey Prestel! A disappearing act

British Telecom's decision to withdraw its database for home computer users contrasts with the success of the French equivalent



**B**ritish Telecom's Prestel, the public service that offers computerised information over the telephone line, will lose 12,000 of its 90,000 subscribers and almost all those who use the system at home, following the Microtel's decision to close the Microtel section of the database.

In contrast, the similar Minitel system in France, which has more than five million users, is a commercial success. The American service, Prodigy, has more than a million users.

BT's Microtel section was aimed at computer enthusiasts, who were considered to be a prime market to use Microtel at home. BT thought they would be in possession of the necessary connecting equipment and in-

terested in the technology. But BT has now announced that the service will be closed from the end of this month because it is uneconomic, needing either 25,000 subscribers or higher fees.

Prestel was launched ten years ago with the intention of being a mass market medium to be used in millions of homes, something that the French system has achieved. High prices have kept away suf-

ficient subscribers to bring the prices down and thereby attract more custom. Two years ago, 20,000 people were using Microtel. But in April British Telecom raised Microtel subscription charges by 50 per cent to £1.38 a year.

At peak times there is also a charge of more than £5 per hour for accessing Microtel. In BT parlance, peak time includes using

the system on Saturdays before 6pm. Computer enthusiasts have not lost the desire for electronic information but have moved to more comprehensive or cheaper services.

British Telecom's failure to provide even this committed group with an economic enough service means that Prestel is destined to become a service for businesses, limited to those such

as travel agents and other companies who can justify the high charges.

It removes for the foreseeable future the chance of Britain having a Minitel-type system. In France, millions of users can connect at home to services ranging from booking trains, hotel accommodation and electronic shopping to contacting lonely hearts clubs.

Minitel became a success after France Telecom provided cheap terminals as an electronic replacement for telephone directories.

MATTHEW MAY

### European Law Report

Luxembourg

## Shareholding does not make company liable

**Polystar Investments Netherlands BV v Inspector der Invoerrechtoede en Accijnen te Arnhem**  
Case C-60/90

Before G. F. Mancini, President of the Sixth Chamber, and Judges T. F. O'Higgins, C. N. Kakouris, F. A. Schockweller, and P. J. G. Kapteyo

Advocate General W. Van Gerven, QC (Opinion April 24)

Judgment June 20

The mere holding of shares is not enough to constitute the exploitation of an asset with a view to producing a permanent source of income because any dividend which might arise out of those shares arises simply from ownership of the asset.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in answering questions submitted to it by the *Gerechtschap der Aanvrage* (Court of Appeal), Arnhem.

Polystar BV, as a part of the world's Polystar group, held shares in various foreign companies, received dividends each year and regularly paid dividends to Polystar Holding Ltd, established in Canada, which held 100 per cent of its capital.

Polystar BV carried out no commercial activities. For the period from January 11, 1981 to December 31, 1985 Polystar BV had paid an annual amount of VAT which, in respect of various services and for which it had obtained reimbursement.

The customs and excise inspector in Arnhem disputed Polystar's right to deduct VAT on the basis of the Sixth Directive and had issued a notice with a view to recovering the amount which had been deducted.

Having unsuccessfully lodged a complaint against the recovery notice, Polystar BV lodged an action before the *Gerechtschap der Aanvrage* which decided to stay the proceedings and referred certain questions on the Sixth Directive of May 17, 1977, on the harmonisation of legislation of the member states relating to turnover taxes, uniform system of value added tax, uniform basis of assessment (OJ L145/1).

ularity in the VAT system, to all transactions, whatever their legal form, which sought to derive income of a permanent nature from the asset in question.

It did not, however, follow from the Court's case law that simple acquisition and holding of shares was to be regarded as an economic activity within the meaning of the Sixth Directive, sub-s to confer the status of a "taxable person" on whoever was in control of VAT purposes.

The mere taking of shares in other undertakings did not constitute exploitation of an asset seeking to produce income of a permanent nature because any eventual dividend which might result from that shareholding arose exclusively from the ownership of the asset.

It would be otherwise where the shareholding was accompanied by direct or indirect involvement in the management of companies in which a shareholding was held.

With regard to the second question, it had to be pointed out that membership by a holding company which did not make the holding company not make its capacity as a non-taxable person for VAT where that holding company limited its activity to simply holding shares.

According to article 4 of the Sixth Directive, only legally independent persons who were closely linked between themselves on the financial economic and organisational basis were to be considered as taxable persons, where they were established in the territory of one and the same member state.

On those grounds the European Court of Justice ruled:

Article 4(2) of the Sixth Directive was to be interpreted as meaning that a holding company whose sole purpose was the holding of shares in other undertakings and which was not directly or indirectly involved in the management of those undertakings was not to be regarded as a taxable person for VAT purposes, and therefore did not have a right to deduction under article 17 of the Sixth Directive, subject to the rights which that holding company possessed in its capacity as shareholder or associate. The membership of the holding company of a world group, which appeared to the outside under a single designation, was not to be taken into consideration for establishing whether or not the company was a taxable person for VAT purposes.

According to the case law of the Court, article 4 of the Sixth Directive gave VAT a very wide scope. The Court had ruled that the definition of "exploitation" within the meaning of paragraph 2 of that article referred, in accordance with the requirements of the principle of ne-

diminished by the passage of so much time.

That forecast had been over-sanguine:

1 It had presupposed that his Lordship would have the opportunity to compare the defendants' cases. In the event the first defendant had not given his account. The only version available had been the transcript of his evidence at the second defendant's trial.

2 The character of the defendants was crucial. The second defendant was now 28 and it was difficult to draw up a picture of him at 15 when he had been immature and so physically underdeveloped that he could have been 11.

3 There had been a campaign in the press to have the first defendant brought to trial following the acquittal of the second defendant and that, and a desire to be in the limelight, might have affected the other witnesses to the defendants' behaviour and character over

the years and led them to exaggerate or invent.

The case had been conducted as if the defendants were being tried for murder in the crown court. However, as this was a civil case there were certain differences to the approach in a murder trial in the criminal court.

1 The failure of the first defendant to testify. In a criminal case that would be neutral and out make the prosecution case stronger. But in a civil case there was no right to silence and his Lordship could draw inferences.

2 When the admissibility of evidence had been challenged, his Lordship had had to look at the character of the witness and then, where necessary, had to banish it from his mind.

3 Evidence had been admitted under the Civil Evidence Act. 4 Evidence had been admitted as to the dispositions and habits of the first defendant.

After consideration of all the evidence, his Lordship concluded that the second defendant's account was worthy of belief and was the true story of Lynn's death. If it had stood alone it would not have fulfilled the burden of proof. However, the cumulative effect of all the evidence was massive.

There was no reasonable doubt that the first defendant

had killed Lynn. He was the sole cause of her death by strangulation.

Applying the same strict standard of proof his Lordship was satisfied that the second defendant, in a state of generalised fear and confusion and acting on the first defendant's orders, had been responsible for some of the deep stab wounds.

The plaintiff was entitled to recover 100 per cent against the first defendant for Lynn's death. The first defendant was also joint tortfeasor with the second defendant in causing the stab wounds.

The second defendant had no hand in Lynn's death by strangulation and therefore bore no liability for that. However, he was a joint tortfeasor in the stabbing and was 20 per cent liable for the pain and suffering caused thereby.

Solicitors: Deighton, Guedala, Buckle, Mellow, Peterborough, Dunn & Coombes, Peterborough.

## Identifying cogent ground of appeal

**Regina v Anderson**  
Before Lord Justice Farquharson, Mr Justice Tucker and Mr Justice Owen

Judgment September 27

When a 16 year old had been sentenced to three years detention in a young offenders institution, which was in excess of the maximum of 12 months laid down by section 1(B)(2)(b) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, as inserted by section 123 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, the excess over 12 months was to be treated as remitted to a term of 12 months and a longer term could not be imposed on appeal.

The Home Office was regarding the sentence as if it had been one of three years passed under section 53, but that was the order which had been made.

Mr James Burbidge, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Andrew J. Jacks, for the prosecution; neither appeared below.

MRI JUSTICE TUCKER said that when the appellant was sentenced he had been aged 16 and, under section 1(B)(2)(b), the maximum term which could be imposed was 12 months.

Any view of the Home Office that the sentence was three years was erroneous.

The court therefore declared that the sentence took effect as provided by statute and was one of 12 months.

It had been open in the

case to remand at the end of a long and difficult summing up the court had omitted to give the direction now complained of.

The court was moved to suggest that particularly in a complicated fraud case, it can also in others, the trial judge, before beginning his summing up, should invite counsel to make submissions concerning the correct direction to be given to the jury.

The case came on appeal on the judge's certificate. The grounds upon which the certificate was sought consisted of an extensive and detailed attack on the judge's summing up.



## South Africa brought back into world tennis

# Britain paired with France in next season's Davis Cup

By ANDREW LONGMORE  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

GIVEN some of the alternatives, the draw for the world group of the Davis Cup, which for the first time in 13 years included the name of South Africa, was not too unkind to Britain.

An away tie against France, top seeds and potential champions, gives Tony Pickard's team just the glimmer of a chance, which neither Germany nor the United States would have offered. Yet, realistically, few since General Custer would appreciate the imbalance of the odds against a British victory.

France beat Britain 5-0 last year on grass at Queen's Club, London, and, 12 months on, have progressed to the final of against the United States in Lyons next month. Britain too have improved in their own way, winning both qualifying ties, against Poland and Austria, with the minimum of fuss.

Yet one statistic will suffice to illustrate the gap in class. There are nine Frenchmen in the top 100 in the world, while Jeremy Bates, at 183, is the only British player in the top 200.

France will also have the choice of surface. If they are feeling insecure, for some reason, they will want to play on clay indoors. It is just as well then that Tony Pickard, with the minimum of fuss, has given his team the chance to do so.

"It will be a different year and we have a different team

Federation (ITF) has already received assurances of support from the NOCSA.

The TSA will be an amalgamation of the black Tennis Federation of South Africa (TDSA) and the white South Africa Tennis Union, but a third group representing the coloured population, the Tennis Association of South Africa, have consistently held back from unification and have been given until October 28 by the ITF to join the TSA.

Even if they refuse, South Africa's participation in the Davis Cup should not be in danger. Less predictable, however, could be the reaction of the other nations in South Africa's zonal group — Algeria, Cameroon, Congo, Senegal and Tunisia — though all conditionally agreed, in Hamburg last summer, to readmit South Africa as soon as the International Olympic Commission had done so.

South Africa, who won the Davis Cup in 1974 after India had refused to play the final, will return at the bottom of the pile in a newly-formed Euro/African group three, a far cry from their last match, against the United States in 1993.

The group will be decided on a round-robin format in Tunis at the end of April, with the top four teams being promoted to group two in 1993. It will not be until 1995, at the earliest, that South Africa can reach the world group again. With luck, Britain might be there to welcome them.

and a different attitude. On paper, we had no chance against the Austrians and, on paper, we have no chance here either," he said. There were few willing to argue. "It would have been nice to have had a home draw, but it's just very exciting to be back in the top group and when the time comes we will be prepared and ready."

Pickard has yet to work out how and where he will prepare. If, as is likely, Stefan Edberg reaches the latter stages of the Australian Open, Pickard will not be back in Europe until four days before the tie, which begins on January 31. Much of his team's preparation will therefore have to be done in Australia. "Their players will have the same problem," he pointed out.

More surprising, even than Britain's return to the top, was the announcement that South Africa would be one of the 93 nations in the 1992 competition. Their re-entry is provisional on the acceptance of Tennis South Africa (TSA), the new administrative body, by the National Olympic Committee of South Africa, but the International Tennis

### CRICKET

## Toronto trip ruled too risky

By SIMON WILDE

THE England cricket committee has refused to allow Phillip DeFreitas to play in an exhibition match in Toronto next month. DeFreitas is one of four England players — Ian Botham, Graeme Hick and Neil Fairbrother are the others — to have been invited to play for a Rest of the World team against a West Indies XI on November 2.

The England authorities fear that DeFreitas, as a fast bowler, runs the highest risk of injuring himself on the artificial playing area at Toronto's SkyDome.

Although the pitch is turf, the outfield will consist of matting and the potholes at which the surfaces meet are considered a potential threat to the safety of a fast bowler in his run-up.

After a demanding summer's cricket in which DeFreitas finished as England's leading

wicket-taker with 30 wickets in six Tests (average 19.06), Micky Stewart, the England manager, would also prefer him to rest before the winter campaigns in New Zealand and the World Cup.

The Canadian Cricket Association has sent out invitations to Botham, Hick and Fairbrother and replies are expected within the week. The Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) will not object if they take part.

If Botham plays, it will probably be for the last time before he joins up with the England tour party in New Zealand in late January. Between times, he is committed to a short tour of South Africa later in November and to a pantomime in England.

This is the third successive year that such a match is to be largely representative.

staged in Toronto. The two previous fixtures attracted crowds of 41,000 and 25,000. This year organisers are hoping for a capacity attendance of 50,000.

It was partly because of the rise of these unauthorised matches that earlier this year the TCCB put several of England's leading players on year-round contracts which bound them exclusively to the national team.

None of those invited to play in Canada are on such a contract but all are contracted members of the England winter tour party.

The Canadian authorities also hope the Rest of the World side will include three South Africans, Jimmy Cook, Allan Donald and one of the country's leading black players. The West Indies team is expected to be largely representative.

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# Balla Jidaal to upset favourite

RODRIGO De Triano's claim to be regarded as the best two-year-old colt in England, possibly in Europe, will be tested at Newmarket today when he challenges for the group one Newgate Stud Middle Park Stakes over six furlongs.

After he had extended his unbeaten sequence to four by winning the Laurent Perrier Champagne Stakes over seven furlongs at Doncaster last month, his owner, Robert Sangster, and trainer, Peter Chapple-Hyam, both said that he had done enough for the time being and that he would not race again this season.

However, when they saw the remaining acceptors for today's race during the following week, they revised their opinion and decided to go to the well again. But that de-

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

cision was taken before it was also decided last week to supplement both Balla Jidaal and Lion Cavern.

Now that his connections have reached the conclusion that the considerable cost involved is worth their while, the race has taken on a new complexion and I cannot help wondering whether the decision to race Rodrigo De Triano again will backfire.

When I discussed today's race with Balla Jidaal's

trainers, Michael Stoute, he conceded that this handsome son of Shaded and Hisam will have to have improved if he continues to improve.

Lion Cavern represents the same team that won the corresponding race last year with Lycius. Last time out Lion Cavern finished third to Arazi in the Prix Morny at Deauville, beaten just under four lengths.

Having beaten the Gim-

ley Stakes winner River Falls comfortably at Doncaster, albeit in an unimpressive time, Rodrigo De Triano is clearly capable of a repeat, although I suspect that River Falls will be better suited by this switch back to six furlongs. Aragon, whereas Rodrigo De Triano by the 2,000 Guineas and Irish Derby winner El Grand Senor.

Earlier in the programme

Balla Jidaal's rider, Pat Eddery, can also land the Westminster Motor Taxi Insurance Godolphin Stakes on last year's Dewhurst Stakes third Surrealist, who is mapped to beat Amaama, Sesame, Libk and company on the stretch of that tenacious performance at Doncaster last June which impressed me.

Stoute: showing confidence in Balla Jidaal

have a chance. "But," he added, "he is improving with every gallop and I don't think that the cost of supplementing him will be misspent."

Now my information is that Balla Jidaal went sufficiently well in a gallop with the useful three-year-old Mellaby at Newmarket last Saturday, when he was ridden by the enormously experienced former jockey Greville Starkey, to suggest that he may well prove capable of upsetting the apple cart. He is my selection.

As Balla Jidaal had the winners of 11 races behind him at Doncaster last time there is a strong case for suggesting that he could develop into a leading contender for next year's 2,000 Guineas if he continues to improve.

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same team that won the corresponding race last year with Lycius. Last time out Lion Cavern finished third to Arazi in the Prix Morny at Deauville, beaten just under four lengths.

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Selection worries add to the air of tension as teams prepare to launch their campaigns for the second Rugby World Cup

## Ireland's faltering hopes boosted by Mullin's clearance

FROM BRYAN STILES  
IN DUBLIN

BRENDAN Mullin, Ireland's record try-scoring centre, put fears of his fitness to rest yesterday when he announced he was ready, if selected, to face Zimbabwe in Ireland's opening match of the World Cup on Sunday.

Mullin missed training on Tuesday to visit Blackrock clinic, where a slight right thigh strain was examined. It is almost certain now that when the Irish announce their side today the Blackrock College player will figure in the centre alongside David Curtis, of London Irish.

Ireland will need Mullin's experience and try-scoring ability to help them blow away lingering worries following their disturbing summer tour of Namibia and their defeat at the hands of a Gloucester club side last month.

Earlier, Irish officials had



heard that Pat O'Hara, the Cork Constitution flanker, had recovered from his hamstring injury and that Simon Geoghegan, one of the most exciting players in the five nations championship, had thrown off the effects of an ankle injury.

The wing and his London Irish club-mate, Jim Staples — also back to full fitness after a neck strain — combined to produce some of the more enterprising play last season.

Ciaran Fitzgerald, the Ireland coach, is convinced his

team has regained the zest and drive that made it such a potent — if unrewarded — force in the spring.

Fitzgerald and his charges trudged home from Namibia in the summer after losing two international matches and looking a ragged outfit. The effects of stomach upsets and playing at altitude were considered telling factors.

Then, their warm-up matches against representative and club sides made them look dismally. The defeat at Kingsholm in the final game was a blow. Fitzgerald blamed a reluctance to expose themselves to injury with the World Cup so close for his players' lack of enthusiasm. Irish supporters are waiting to be convinced.

Following their tuning-up sessions at a centre near Dublin this week, Fitzgerald announced: "Morale is now very high. In fact I consider it to be even higher than for last year's championship. I think we have turned the corner."

Ken Reid, the Ireland manager, and Fitzgerald will be at pains to ensure the team gets away to a winning start.

They are likely to put their faith in experience in the pack. Neil Francis should be at lock, with either Donal Lenihan or Mick Galwey at his shoulder.

Phil Matthews, the captain, will be on the flank, with Brian Robinson at No. 8.

There should be a blend of old and new at half-back, with the dependable Ralph Keyes at stand-off and Rob Saunders, last winter's captain, at scrum half.

While the Irish supporters fret over their team's recent exploits, Sam Woldenar, the Zimbabwe manager, offers them some comfort. "I have taken no notice whatsoever of Ireland's two defeats in Namibia," he said.

Fiji (v Canada); S Korobasau; F Seru, S Aia, N Nakulau, T Lovet, W Seve, P Petaia, T Tawake, S Savenaca, S Namoli, L Koro, L Seve, S Domoni, Jr, Dore, T Tawake.

The loose-head prop, Peni Volavola, has also overcome a painful knee injury but is not expected to play, if at all, until the later stages of the tournament. The captain, Nosesse Taga, is firmly installed on the left of the front row.

The 6ft 8in lock, Aisaka Nadolo, has not been named even among the replacements, as the Fijians expect their chosen locks, Domoni and

Savai, both a hefty 6ft 6in, supported by the lean No. 8, Ifeirimani Tawake, to do well against the tall Canadian jumpers. Norman Hadley, at 6ft 7in, is the tallest of the Canadian forward.

"This is a vital game for us," the Fijian manager, Josia Taku, said yesterday. "It is very difficult not only because it is the first, it is also decisive for our prospect in the competition. Who wins this game has definitely made a big step towards the quarter-finals."

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## Fijian centre fit to face Canada

FROM CHRIS THAU IN BEZIERS

FIJI, who yesterday announced their team for the game against Canada in Bayonne on Saturday, were able to include No. 8 Nadolo, who passed a stringent fitness test and will partner Savenaca Aia at centre.

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## Thomas warns of changes in Cup seedings in 1995

FROM CHRIS THAU IN BEZIERS

HOME union countries failing to reach the semi-finals at the World Cup may not be seeded for the next tournament in 1995 (Peter Bills writes). Russ Thomas, the Rugby World Cup chairman, warned yesterday that there may be changes to the seedings system in four years' time.

"We should not seed more than four [teams] in total in my view," he said, "and it was too clear-cut to have the seeds known two-and-a-half years before this tournament. We may have seeded too early. My recommendation would be that we seed less numbers next time and the balance arranged at some type of tournament in which other countries would participate."

Even England could be affected by the proposed new scheme. Unless they beat New Zealand in today's first group match or beat France in the quarter-final in Paris, England would be unlikely to reach the semi-finals and therefore would not merit automatic seeding in 1995.

The Australian Rugby Union (ARU) has lodged an official complaint about the use of an unauthorised photograph of

David Campese in an advertisement being carried in ITV's official World Cup magazine.

A picture of Campese dropping the ball appears in an advertisement for videos under the heading "watch him fumble whenever you want".

Campese's fumble paved the way for the 19-18 win by the British Isles' touring team against Australia in July 1989.

ITALY: L Tovani; P Vacca, F Gasteriello, S Barbi, Mancuso, C Cicali, D Domeneghi, F Properi, Cari, R Sestini, R Favero, G Cruci, G Zanini (capt), C Chiesa, G Gonnella, M Giovannelli, F Pianelli, M Scattolon, S Sestini.

### Sponsors change

SCHWEPPES Great Britain told the Welsh Rugby Union it will not be taking up its option to sponsor the Schweppes Cup after the end of this season. The company, which first linked up with the Challenge Cup in the 1977-8 season, is severing a 12-year connection because of a change in sponsorship interests.

For the past four seasons the final has attracted 50,000 spectators.

Campese: complaint

### SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

## Grant awarded an ideas nursery

By JANE WYATT

AMONG the £3.7 million recently given to sport by the Foundation for Sport and the Arts were two grants that will specifically aid sport for people with disabilities. The £36,000 awarded to the British Paralympic Association will help to fund the competitors at next March's Winter Paralympics, and the organisation is hopeful of more money for the Barcelona Olympic Games at the next payout.

The second grant, on the surface the more unexpected, aims to promote sport at the

grass roots. The Ideas Factory, a Manchester-based television production company, has been awarded £235,000 to produce videos about less well known sports. The man behind the company is Martin Duffy, a presenter and producer with such programmes as *Don't Just Sit There* and *The Big 8*, a series on wheelchair basketball for Channel 4, to his credit.

The Ideas Factory has submitted a plan to produce ten videos that could be used by sports governing bodies, disability organisations, schools, colleges, clubs and individuals to promote an interest in sport among the disabled and awareness among the able-bodied, as well as creating a library of visual information.

At the moment Duffy still has

an open mind on exactly which sports will be covered. Certainly wheelchair tennis, track and field events, water skiing and winter sports are most likely to be included and possibly gymnastics for people with learning difficulties.

"We want the videos to feature the athletes themselves demonstrating just what is possible and what is available and we'd welcome ideas from interested parties," Duffy said.

Before the grant instalments are paid, Duffy and his team must present detailed plans. They are now talking to various governing bodies of the sport and will probably choose those with well organised infrastructures able to cope with the surging interest that it is hoped the videos will bring.

At the moment Duffy still has

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Passed fit: Mullin looks likely to line up for Ireland against Zimbabwe on Sunday

## Ring's kicking a key to Welsh prospects

## 'Streetwise' approach sets New Zealand side apart

By PETER BILLS

terrible stick if they lost."

Taylor does not believe Eng-

land will win at Twickenham

today, although he has every

respect for their determination.

"It will be very close, I am sure,

but the streetwise ability of

All Blacks will pull them

through. I doubt whether the

England loose forward trio will

be quick enough to the

breakdown."

Michael Jones is an exception-

ally open-side flanker for New

Zealand and it is crucial that

men get to the breakdown first."

Taylor is perplexed as to why

England have remained faithful

to their back row. He believes

that their good performances in

the past have been against

moderate teams and that the

way the Australians exposed the

back row when they met in the

summer ought to have rung

alarm bells.

Taylor, who is now in charge

of his team at Taunton, where

he lives and works, says that

every New Zealand player will

be aware of his responsibilities

for today's game. Playing for

New Zealand is like playing for

their nation.

Deane may

return in two

### BOWLS

## England may pick Duff of Scotland

By DAVID RYHS JONES

HUGH Duff, the 1988 world indoor singles champion, who will take part in the World Cup on Sunday, is optimistic that Mark Ring's knee will stand up to the contest.

Ring, whose rapid return to fitness after keyhole surgery on his right knee has delighted the Welsh coach, Alan Davies, must first prove his injured knee can stand up to the demands of goal kicking before he is confirmed at stand-off half in the match at Cardiff Arms Park.

"It's vital we don't let the Samoans play to their traditional strengths," he added.

Meanwhile, the centre, Frank Bunce, and the lock, Matafa Keenan, both of whom will play in New Zealand, will make their international debuts for Western Samoa. The side will be captained by the veteran Auckland prop, Peter Fatialofa.

The Samoan manager, Tait Sime, believes they are fielding the best team we have ever had in our history". He considers his side is capable of reaching the quarter-final stages of the competition.

"Rugby just doesn't mean as much to the northern hemisphere nations, it's as simple as that," Taylor said. "They may think it does but it doesn't. It is everything to New Zealanders. If you don't perform well in the New Zealand jersey you are heavily criticised right across the nation. You can hardly live with it. Criticism here is not like that."

"It's more crucial for an All Black to play well. They know their nation will give them

### BASKETBALL

## Kingston have to rise above injury setback

From NICHOLAS HARLING IN MECHelen, BELGIUM

KINGSTON start back into Europe here tonight without the one man whose spectacular contributions did most to assure them of a best finish by a British club last season.

This week, Duff, aged 23, moves to Hull, where he will work at the Milburn Leisure Centre, playing, coaching and learning to run the business.

His move from Auchenleck, in Ayrshire, means that he will be available to play for England in the indoor international series next March. The English Indoor Bowling Association selection committee, due to meet in London on October 17, will have to decide whether to include the young Scot in the preliminary trial at Stevenage on November 10.

Among others who have made a successful move south after playing for Scotland are Douglas Adamson, who played for Wales in 1976, and Andy Thomson, who has won 11 English titles and been a key figure in England teams since 1981.

Although Duff can describe himself as a professional, the decline of bowls on television gives him fewer chances to earn money from the sport. At the moment Duffy still has

four to six weeks, but being 36, he could be out for six to eight weeks," Kevin Cadle, the Kingston coach, said.

The fracture that occurred



- TENNIS 32
- RACING 32, 33
- FOOTBALL 35

THE TIMES

# SPORT

THURSDAY OCTOBER 3 1991

The power and presence of New Zealand should ensure a memorable kick-off to the Rugby World Cup at Twickenham today

## England start quest to reach new heights

BY DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SO IT arrives, with royal assent from Prince Edward, a packed house, geographical and commercial squabbles pushed into the background and the climactic grunt which terminates every New Zealand *haka*. Rugby World Cup 1991 claims the international stage at Twickenham today and moves firmly for the first time into the realms of multi-million pound sport.

The best of the old rugby world will be there at 2pm, when such great players as Colin Meads, Bill Beaumont and Gerald Davies represent their countries in the symbolic march past which forms part of the opening ceremony. The best of the new will follow an hour later when New Zealand meet England to start the defence of the title they won in Auckland in 1987.

It is a match which, potentially, will live up to the old show business adage to leave them wanting more. One or other team, or even both, may be back at Twickenham on November 2 to contest the final of a tournament which began in 1988 with the Asian pre-qualifying event and has involved 37 countries.

Since then the composition of the tournament has outgrown anything seen in New Zealand and Australia during the inaugural event: 70 countries are due to receive tele-



Today, *The Times* presents a special 16-page colour supplement with the most authoritative guide to the Rugby World Cup. The players and the moves to watch, a pool-by-pool guide and the television action are all included.

vision signals, eight major sponsors (the final two, Cathay Pacific and British Steel, joining the band within the last month) have provided substantial backing. Now it is up to the players.

Geoff Cooke, England's team manager, wrenched his thoughts away from today's opening match long enough yesterday to reflect on the wider implications: "I hope it will cement rugby as a world game, that more and more people who are not totally committed rugby people will recognise the game for the spectacle it can be."

"I hope they appreciate the nature of the contest that takes place, the fact that it encompasses such a range of skills and physical types. It could do for rugby what

people like Olga Korbut achieved for gymnastics in the 1970s."

The thought of so frail a figure as the great Soviet gymnast is at brutal odds with the physical dynamics of this afternoon's game, which balances the intention of victory inherent in All-Black rugby against the support England will receive from a Twickenham crowd which helps make a home match like playing in a comfortable armchair.

"This side has not yet got within 20 per cent of what it is capable," Cooke said of his players after they completed light training at Basingstoke, in bright sunshine compared with the wild and windy weather which is predicted for today. "Hopefully we will come near that tomorrow."

Although they have tried hard to take the broadest view of the tournament, all England's efforts for the last two years have been focused on defeat of New Zealand. The knowledge that victory may make for an easier quarter-final in France is neither here nor there (one brave soul asked the New Zealand management last week whether they would consider "throwing" a pool game so as to avoid a semi-final against Australia).

Throughout a long and distinguished history New Zealand have rarely been caught out in their tactical assessment of their opposition, and their ability to lift the game an extra notch when required. England's capacity to discover that extra gear is the main stumbling block to a prediction of a home victory; if they can control the pace of the game and are prepared to unleash their midfield, they have the capacity to win.

That control rests firmly on the shoulders of the forwards.

R J Hill (Bath) 9 Serum half G T M Bachop (Cantebury) 9

J Leonard (Harlequins) 1 Prop S C McDowell (Auckland) 1

B C Moore (Harlequins) 2 Hooker S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland) 2

J A Probyn (Avalanche) 3 Prop R W Lee (Wakatobi) 3

M C Teague (Gloucester) 6 Flanker A J Whetton (Auckland) 6

P J Ackford (Harlequins) 4 Lock I D Jones (North Auckland) 4

W A Dooley (Frome & Shropshire) 5 Lock G W Whetton (Auckland) 5

P J Winterbottom (Harlequins) 7 Flanker M N Jones (Auckland) 7

D Richards (Leicester) 8 No. 8 Z V Brooke (Auckland) 8

### TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

#### New Zealand

15 T J Wright (Auckland) 15

14 J J Kirwan (Auckland) 14

13 C R Innes (Auckland) 13

12 B J McCahill (Auckland) 12

11 J K R Timu (Otago) 11

10 G J Fox (Auckland) 10

9 G T M Bachop (Cantebury) 9

8 J A Probyn (Avalanche) 8

7 S C McDowell (Auckland) 7

6 Z V Brooke (Auckland) 6

5 M N Jones (Auckland) 5

4 I D Jones (North Auckland) 4

3 G W Whetton (Auckland) 3

2 S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland) 2

1 A J Whetton (Auckland) 1

0 Z V Brooke (Auckland) 0

Referee: J M Fleming (Scotland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 S J Halliday (Harrow) 17 B J McCahill (Harlequins) 18 C D Morris (London) 19 G R Rendall (Avalanche) 20 C J Oliver (Northampton) 21 O Skinner (Harlequins)

16 S Philipps (Cantebury) 17 K Linda (North Harbour) 18 C D Morris (London) 19 A T Earp (Cantebury) 20 G H Parks (Wakatobi) 21 O Dowd (North Harbour)

Survival of fittest, page 34

Ireland lifted, page 34

Pause for thought: the England players, from left, Dooley, Ackford, Richards and Moore, are deep in conversation at Basingstoke yesterday

## Rugby to share £20m windfall

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE Rugby World Cup is set to make a profit of more than £20 million, making it the most financially successful sports event staged in Britain.

The surplus, which will largely be used to ensure the staging of future World Cups and to develop the game throughout the world, will come principally from gate receipts, television fees, sponsorships and merchandising.

It will dwarf the figure for the first World Cup, in New Zealand and Australia in 1987, when the profit was only about £12,000 from gross income of £3 million.

This time the income could reach £39 million, with outgoings of between £12 and £15 million.

Alan Callan, managing director of CPMA Group, the commercial advisers to Rugby World Cup Ltd, said: "Our original agreement was to get

the best possible balance between income and exposure. It was to secure the future of the competition and bring the game into new parts of the globe."

"We were asked to secure a surplus in excess of £20 million, partly to make sure that countries like Ivory Coast, Argentina and Western Samoa do not have to worry about

participating in the qualification rounds for 1995, when more countries will be taking part."

Callan said that CPMA had "met all the targets that Rugby World Cup has asked us to meet", despite a recession which has hampered sponsorship and advertising. He said: "I believe that on the Monday after the competition, there

will be a lot of chairmen and managing directors who will be asking themselves, 'Why weren't we part of that event?'

The competition has also suffered from a shortfall in expected television revenue because of the lack of interest in many countries. Only the British Isles, France, New Zealand and Japan are paying more than £1 million in fees; even Australia is only contributing £300,000 for broadcasting rights. This compares with the Olympics, where one of the US networks alone paid more than £200 million.

However, the organisers have seen the tournament as an opportunity to increase the world-wide popularity of the game; they have taken low or even no fees to ensure viewers are introduced to the sport.

The matches are expected to be shown in about 65 countries, which is pleasing news for the major sponsors.

### CP PROGRAMME

Today: POOL ONE: England v New Zealand (at Twickenham; 3pm)

Tomorrow: POOL THREE: Australia v Argentina (at Twickenham; 3pm)

POOL FOUR: France v Romania (at Basingstoke; 8pm)

TELEVISION: Today: JTV 13.50-15.00 and Screenport 14.00-16.30, 16.30-20.30 and 21.30-22.30. Opening ceremony followed by England v New Zealand (from Twickenham). Tomorrow: ITV 14.20-16.40 and Screenport 14.45-16.40; Australia v Argentina (from Llanelli), ITV 19.55-22.00 and Screenport 19.45-21.30; France v Romania (from Beziers). Other evenings: Screenport 10.00-11.00 and 21.30-22.30.

BETTING (Corals): Australia and New Zealand, 1.64-2.00; Argentina, 1.61-1.81; Scotland, 1.51-1.61; Ireland, 5.00-1; Wales, 1.51-1; Argentina, 5.00-1; Italy and Zimbabwe, 1.00-1; Japan and United States, 5.00-1.

Hills put England at 9-4 to beat New Zealand, 1.61-1.81. He also makes New Zealand's John Kirwan the favourite, at 6-1. In score the first try of the tournament, with England's Tony Underwood at 6-1.

WEATHER: Southeast England will be cloudy in places, with patchy, mostly light, rain. Gradually clearing to bright and sunny periods with scattered showers.

Saturday Review

TODAY IN THE TIMES



Today's headlines

Today's sport

Today's business

Today's finance

Today's sport

Today's business

Today's sport

Today's business

Today's sport

Today's business

## Finns expose Liverpool defects

Kuusysi Lahti ..... 1  
Liverpool ..... 0

By LOUISE TAYLOR

(Liverpool win 6-2 on agg)

AN EXPATRIATE Englishman who failed to reach the required standard at Wimbledon dented Liverpool's self respect in Finland last night. Although Mike Belfield's goal for Kuusysi Lahti, a looping header midway through the second half, failed to impede the Merseysiders' progress into the next round of the UEFA Cup it was a defiant gesture which again exposed Liverpool's new found vulnerability away from Anfield.

The youngest player in the side is Terunori Masubo, 19, a wing from Waseda University, who will be making his third international appearance.

The coach, Shukuzawa, rested his players yesterday after a hard session on Tuesday at Riverside Park in Jeddah, but his side will train today and tomorrow at Heriot-Watt University on the outskirts of Edinburgh.

Yesterday Shukuzawa stated that his side would try to play a running game. They will require to win possession to achieve these aims and to that end Konno seemed to know how to combat any physical disadvantage when he said: "We are not too worried about our lack of height at the lineout. We always play against tall guys."

JAPAN (Scotland): T. Hosokawa; Y. Matsuo, E. Kubuki, S. Hirai (cap), Y. Kondo, S. Matsui, H. Kondo, T. Hayashi, E. Nagai, S. Matsui, S. Matsui, S. Matsui, S. Matsui, T. Matsuo, Y. Matsuo, M. Horikoshi, A. Oyagi, K. Takahashi, T. Fujii.

□ The Scottish Rugby Union announced final details of the Murrayfield Debutante, designed to raise £36.75 million to redevelop Murrayfield into an all-seat stadium. A total of 18,500 debentures, with prices ranging from £1,200 to £9,900, will be available from today.

Gordon Mason, the SRU president, said that there had already been 16,000 enquiries.

in the first half. Frequent injuries have been another feature of Liverpool's campaign so far, and their cause was hampered in the 15th minute when David Burrows, the England B full back, staggered off clutching his knee.

Burrows stepped off the bench to make his debut after his arrival from non-league Prescot as they regrouped. Prescot left themselves open to Finnish attacking forces.

Reassuring for Liverpool, Steve Nicol was here, there and everywhere as he offered an assortment of first-class tackles.

Nevertheless Belfield, aged 30, eluded the English safety and Bruce Grobbelaar was grateful to get his hands to an awkward first-half lop from the Kuusysi forward.

But for the most part Liverpool were able to knock the ball around at the back in

breakdown. A late injury induced forced the withdrawal of Dean Saunders, who had figured so

in the first half. Frequent injuries have been another feature of Liverpool's campaign so far, and their cause was hampered in the 15th minute when David Burrows, the England B full back, staggered off clutching his knee.

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But for the most part Liverpool were able to knock the ball around at the back in

breakdown. A late injury induced forced the withdrawal of Dean Saunders, who had figured so

prominently in Liverpool's 6-1 first leg win at Anfield. But such a subdued showing was hardly surprising considering the margin of Liverpool's aggregate lead.

Graeme Souness, the manager, surely did not intend to take relaxation to the point of Belfield scoring however. The goal originated from Jarvinen's right-wing cross in the 66th minute which eluded Nicol and had Grobbelaar ill-advisedly scampering off his line, permitting Belfield's forehead to provoke Finnish celebrations.

LAW: Rover, Remus, Saastamoinen, Jarvinen, Jantti, Villani, Lehtinen, Rantatalo, Kinnunen, Belfield, Azurin.

LIVERPOOL: Grobbelaar; G. Allen, B. Grobbelaar, J. Johnson, N. Johnson, S. Hart, K. Harkness, R. Rosenthal (sub: J. Carter), S. McNamee, I. Rush, Waters, S. McNeilson.

Referee: K Hych (Czechoslovakia).

□ Seven Liverpool fans were refused entry to Finland "because of their criminal background" the police said. No details were given.

JOHN Salako will play no further part in England's attempt to qualify for the European championship finals. The Crystal Palace winger sustained knee ligament damage in his side's 1-0 victory over Leeds United at Selhurst Park on Tuesday night.

Graham Taylor, the England manager, will thus be deprived of Salako's services for the vital qualifying matches against Turkey at Wembley later this month and in Poland next month.

Salako, who will not play again this year, and possibly not for the remainder of the season, underwent an exploratory operation in a London hospital yesterday. Alan Smith, the Palace assistant

manager, said: "He's going to be out for some time. I would say for a minimum of three months."